



**JUNE 2021  
QUARTERLY  
NEWSLETTER**

*From Executive Director, Darryll Davis*

“In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise, glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” 1Peter1:6-7

*Expected Grace vs Unexpected Grace*

Sometimes when God gives grace, it’s not the grace we expect. It’s often not the type of grace we’re looking for nor the grace we desire to receive. With so many failures in my life, I am a seasoned pro when it comes to asking for grace. “I need your grace, I need it badly. I can’t do this; I need your help, Father please change this situation,” and on and on are just a few of my pleas. I do believe there are plenty times when the grace of God provides for a miraculous healing or a serious change in a difficult situation. This is often what we expect when we ask God for help. When God removes the pain or heals the disease, it seems to us clear evidence of his love and wisdom and kindness, right? And of course we praise Him when He transforms our circumstances and brings relief. But that’s not always His rule of thumb. Early on in my first days of Christianity, I realized that He was not a “Cosmic Bellhop” that was waiting for my daily disruptions so that He could sprinkle magic fairy dust on it and make it go away. Rather, God’s Word teaches us that struggles are part of God’s plan for us. Every Christian should have begun to understand the concept of real struggle the first day he/she picked up their cross and began to walk. Suffering is designed by God to transform us, and the grace which God gives is grace that doesn’t most often change our painful circumstances. No, it is a grace that rather changes us; it’s a grace that transforms us; grace that enables us to trust God through the thick and thin of every pain and problem. The lyrics to Mercy Me’s song: “Even if He don’t” rings true in such times.

*“I know You're able and I know You can  
Save through the fire with Your mighty hand  
But even if You don't, My hope is You alone  
They say it only takes a little faith to move a mountain  
Well, good thing  
A little faith is all I have, right now  
But God, when You choose to leave mountains unmovable  
Oh, give me the strength to be able to sing  
It is well with my soul”*

So when you ask for grace, and your pain does not go away, or deliverance does not come the way you expect it: do not think that God has failed you, nor cease to give Him praise in the storm. The sanctification work of Christ gives us endurance, patience, perseverance and bravery to not only face every difficult circumstance in life, but to be triumphant in it. It is this same courage, endurance and perseverance which ultimately transforms our lives. We take on Christ’s nature when we face our problems in the same manner in which Christ faced His. We become more like Christ when we pick up our cross daily with the same yielded, brave attitude that Jesus showed when He heaved His cross on His shoulder. It is for this that God gives grace. Yes, it is a hard grace and it is, at times, an uncomfortable grace. But it is a grace that is enabling in every trial and distress. Friends, is it clear evidence of His Love when He does not remove the storm, does not bring you out of the lion’s den or does not heal you? Its times such as these that a “different lens” is required in order to understand a deeper love and the deeper work He has promised to continue within each of us. (Philippians 1:6)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Review

The pandemic was still going strong, but it did not deter us from holding a whirlwind round of events.

We kicked it off on March 21 with Grounds for Hope. This live coffee roasting event held at [Fantes Coffee](#) launched a partnership with Leo Fante to produce a special coffee to raise funds for the ministry. What a blessing to meet this man of faith and see his heart for what we do. You can purchase this delicious coffee on our [website](#) - and be sure to also visit Leo's coffee house at Grinstead and Lexington.

Hard on the heels of that event was a spectacular concert with Christian recording artist Cochren and Co. Billed as Songs of Hope, Michael Cochren and his band blessed us with 2 hours of worship and praise at Maxwell's House of Music in Jeffersonville and streaming online. During the concert, the testimonies of Adam Garrett and his mother Susan Dejean showed us that God's redemptive power reaches into the deepest sorrow and hurts. No dry eyes as we heard of lives reclaimed in the name of Jesus.

Just one month later, our second annual Fairways of Hope Golf Scramble returned to Hidden Creek Golf Club in Sellersburg, IN. We were able to present the message of hope again (do you see the pattern!) as sponsors and players blessed us by opening their hearts and their checkbooks to make it happen. Many, many thanks to our brother in Christ, Barry Bonifield, PGA Professional and an army of volunteers from Rawlings Company and others who poured themselves into the day.

And yes, Derby was back! And in a last-minute request from the official Derby merchandise sponsor, we partnered again with GO Ministries to pull off another amazing event on a short 3-week runway. Working hard to set up, stock shelves and sell merchandise during Thurby, Oaks and Derby. We can't say enough about how volunteers with hearts full of love endured long hours of preparation, heavy traffic in and out of Churchill Downs and many sore backs and feet during that three week stretch. Too many to thank here, but once again Rawlings employees played a huge part in the success of this event.

Blessings to All...*Ron Kelley*



## A Letter From Mom

Dear Emily:

You spent your 24<sup>th</sup> birthday in prison. How did we get there -- from an intelligent, happy, fun-loving, wonderful little girl to this! I have learned a lot about addiction as you went through every phase: theft, death of friends, police, multiple rehabs, methadone, suboxone, AA, more treatment, overdose, hospitals, jail, prison. It has been so hard to watch my lovely daughter fall victim to this unimaginable nightmare.

Each rehab session, I sat with other shell-shocked parents, commiserating on how to deal with this horrible disease. But it took a reawakening of my faith to truly turn this nightmare over to God. I learned humility, empathy, understanding, and how to have a true relationship with God. You showed me the hurt in the world, the worthlessness of material things and the hopelessness of homeless addicts.

For 16 years, I prayed every day for you to have the strength to beat your addiction and asked God to help you overcome the odds. On May 18, 2021, you overdosed and did not wake up. My heart is broken. I really cannot describe the pain of losing my only daughter. But I know that God is standing right beside me as I grieve. And I am sure God is enjoying your wonderful sense of humor. God Speed Emily! Until we meet again in heaven.



Love, Mom

A very difficult funeral...

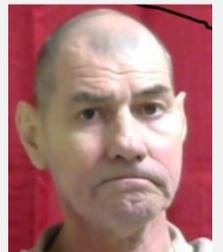
Darlene (Emily's Mother) was one of our original pioneers when we began the "Families of the Incarcerated" support group at SE Christian (Blankenbaker campus) 8 plus yrs ago. We have had the privilege of walking alongside of Darlene and Emily through those years on mountaintops and in valleys, as all who deal with addiction are well aware. The horrible news of Emily's death came a few weeks back with a phone call from Darlene. She asked me to do the funeral. I was both honored and perplexed at the same time. It was a very sad but memorable day. Thank you Darlene; we will continue to walk alongside of you and pray as we always have. *Darryll*

## Paying it Forward

Selena: I just got off the phone with a man who is spending life in prison. He bought 1000 Promises of God books to send to our youth with his stimulus money. He just cried to me saying he wanted the books to help prevent crimes like his. I hope to be like him one day; get a blessing and turn around and give it away!

In his words: My name is Joe R. Knight and I've served nearly 34 years on a life sentence. I've been involved with ministry at The Prisoners Hope and Darryll since 2017. I'm sharing this in hope that it could generate support for a new ministry I feel called to, "Seedtime & Harvest Promise Book Project". My stimulus check financed an order of 1000 Promise Books which proclaim 1000 promises of God. 20 copies are being sent to one youth detention center in all 50 states. A separate order of 200 promise books will be distributed at the compound where I am housed, Lee Adjustment Center in Beattyville, KY. They will be equally distributed to Christian inmates, Restricted Housing Unit inmates, to the dorms for non-Christian inmates and to the prison staff. Plans are for Promise Books to be provided to prisoners at the 120 county jails. I'm sending 1000 copies to The Prisoners Hope along with \$500 to cover postage and shipping costs. I pray for Christian friends, mentors, prayer partners and cheerful givers of energy, money and time to aide in this outreach. Please reach out to Darryll or Selena at The Prisoners Hope; they can also provide instructions on communicating with me through jpay.com or by mail.

God's word says, "So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it." (Isaiah 55:11) The living word of faith renews and transforms things; things like behavior, character, hearts and minds. It will also change a destiny. *Joe Knight*



*A Life Redeemed*

My name is Steven Hirschauer I was born and pretty much raised in Louisville Kentucky all my life. I first started using drugs and alcohol at the age of 12-13 yrs old. By the time I was 20 years old I was introduced to cocaine/crack cocaine. At that time I had three children; two daughters and a son from a broken relationship. In September 2002 I was arrested and charged with multiple felonies including impersonating police and robbery in the first degree. About my second year in the county jail God invaded my life and opened my eyes and gave me salvation. Shortly after that the judge gave me 15 years; I did 11 years flat before getting out in June of 2013. God has truly blessed my life while I was incarcerated and since I've come home. I became ordained for The Prisoners Hope ministry of which Darryll Davis is the director and my mentor of many years. I have been married to my wife for 17 years who stuck by me every minute and every step of the way. We have two children; one 7 and the other 6 yrs old. I work at Ford Motor Company and own my own house. All these things I was told were not possible for a felon, BUT GOD made the way. And to top it all off, I was fully pardoned by the previous governor and now am felony free. There is **nothing** GOD cannot do!

*Steven H.*



What's next? Come **September 17, GiveForGoodLouisville** will give us all another chance to show how much we love where we live as we love on those that live here with us. And December will bring us to a close with our second **Breakfast of Hope Gala**, slated for **December 8**. Keep an eye on **Facebook** and our **website** as these events draw near.

You're invited to Join The Prisoners Hope Prayer Initiative **"LIFT UP"** along with hundreds of others... Check it out at:  
**LIFT UP PRAYERS**



Scan the QR Code to visit TPH website [Giving Opportunities](#)



You turn mourning to dancing  
You give beauty for ashes  
You turn shame into glory  
You're the only one who can  
  
'Cause the God of the mountain  
Is the God of the valley  
There's not a place Your mercy and grace  
Won't find me again.  
(Lyrics from 'Graves into Gardens')

