

NORTHERN FLORIDA CHRISTIAN CENTER



*An interdenominational, Spirit-filled ministry
touching people with Jesus' love*

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Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

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COMING ALONG SIDE TO HELP

By: Retha Garten

There are segments of Scripture that we are probably more familiar with than others. I see some Scriptures that for most of us as His family, perhaps we have failed to see and obey as we should. I believe one of those Scriptures is found in Matthew 25:34-40. Here we read Jesus' words: *"Then the King will say to those on His right hand, Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me."*

It is said of Matthew 25:36 that this verse is part of a larger passage where Jesus is talking about the final judgment and how people will be judged based on how they treated others. The passage emphasizes the importance of helping those in need, including those who are sick, hungry, or in prison.

I. Our NFCC Church family has for more than three decades supported a local ministry that has lovingly followed these words of Jesus, *"I was in prison and you came to Me."* It is called *Great Harvest Prison Ministry*. Week after week, month after month, year after year my dear friends, Bernice, Myron and Glenda have gone into several prisons in and around this area, taking the Gospel to *hungry for the Truth* incarcerated men. They sing and give short messages from God's Word, and always an invitation to receive salvation. For those who ask, they send them Bibles, tracts, Bible studies and other encouraging materials. Are they making a difference in these men's lives?



Here are some of the inmates' responses: *"These Bible studies are really giving me hope to go through my time here. The stories and smiley faces you send are a real blessing to me."* *"Jesus Christ is love, He changed my mind and body and if He can change me, He can change anyone who will put their trust in Him."* *"I'm doing these lessons and I am learning so, so much. I love the Bible you gave me. I will continue to keep my eyes and my heart on Jesus. I can really see with my eyes and my heart that I am not alone in here, even when I am lonely. I've started over in my life."* *"We must be diligent in the use of our tongue and try to only speak positive, uplifting and edifying words as we lead others to God."* *"I fell but I'm getting better in my walk with the Lord. I'm good to my friends, slow on backbiting. I still talk about people and work at not hurting anyone. I do fear the Lord and I don't swear any more. I need to keep reading God's Word. I want to spend eternity with the One who gave His life for me and to be with Him throughout eternity."*

To Encourage You...

Seeing As God Sees

"For He said to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion"

Romans 9:15



Retha Garten

You are My precious child. My heart flows with love for you and thanksgiving for the love, prayers and concern you express in word and deed to others. By giving of yourself, you are fulfilling My will for you.

It is difficult for you to believe and grasp the fact that you can and are doing anything here, where some have called *the back 40 acres*. I called Moses and spoke to him on the back side of the desert. I gave young Joseph a dream in the midst of jealous brothers. I called Abraham out from among idol-worshipping relatives. My servant, David, as a young shepherd, was thought to be the least-likely-to-succeed.

I speak to My own and know where they are—be it O'Brien, Dallas, Bombay, New York, or Singapore. Be ever tuned to Me to hear what I say. It is not your physical location but the location of your heart and spirit—tuned to Me and open to hear. I do and will speak. Be open to hear, believe, receive and do what you receive from Me. Hold these words in your heart—they are from Me, who loves you unconditionally.

Affirmation: Thank You, Father, that You always know where we are and how to reach us.

2. Our church here...again for decades...has financially and prayerfully supported an ongoing, under the radar ministry in a totally Muslim country. I cannot use names so that security is maintained. She has ministered in, as I recall, more than 20 countries of the world. Some years back, she felt compelled by the Holy Spirit to attend a God-centered university here in America and obtain her doctorate. She resisted it for a long time trying to tell the Lord she had been ministering in many countries and did not feel she needed that now. However, in obedience to the Lord's leading, she took the time to earn her doctorate. And has it paid off? She has been in this present country for years now. During the day, she is greatly welcomed with her doctorate degree to teach English in this country. That is her open door for being there. But...her real interest and her evening hours, 'under radar, so to speak,' are spent teaching the Word of God and reaching the spiritually hungry for salvation and growing in their Christian walk with the Lord. Dangerous? Very much so! Prayer for her safety is greatly needed. She has told me her story. Raised here in America in a totally unsaved household. She read a Scripture, as I recall, "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel" and she felt strongly that she was to obey these words from Jesus. It is our great joy and privilege to support her in every way we can.

3. Our love and financial support go to another ministry in another Muslim country in Europe. We supported him financially when he was a single guy teaching and preaching the Gospel in different countries. He has since married and settled in this mentioned country and has four children. His wife was born in this particular country and speaks perfect English, as do their four children. This family tours around that nation, while he is teaching and preaching the Gospel, they reach out to anyone and everyone with love and blessings to them. He also has a radio program that airs with the Gospel message. I have known him for decades and he and the family have spent a needed several-months vacation time here at the Center a couple years back. He spoke during those Sundays here in our local church while the then-young children hiked and played with others here on the grounds. Now, two of these well-educated daughters have graduated high school in that country and come to America to have more schooling and follow the Lord's directives for their lives. This is a lovely family with every member of it living their lives for Jesus and making an impact on many other people's lives. How great it is to support this Life-giving ministry!

4. I met her many years ago at Christ for the Nations in Dallas, Texas. She is the daughter of the now-in-Heaven couple who began CFNI. She went to Israel and through many trials, angry-seeking, anti-Christian antics against her, she established a beloved ministry reaching out with the Gospel of Jesus Christ to Jews, Muslims, Gentiles, anyone and everyone. She married a Jewish man and together they established MAOZ. Through the years, many have accepted Jesus as their Messiah and this ministry has a multitude of outreaches in different directions.

Every church and ministry that I am familiar with that preach the true Gospel, love and reverence Jesus, also love the nation of Israel. Just recently President Trump named former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee as US Ambassador to Israel. You will recall that in his first term as President, President Trump, by his own initiative and Israel's permission, moved their capitol to Jerusalem. Our President loves Israel and I am sure that true Israelites love him in return.

With all that Israel has been experiencing recently from their arch enemies, seeing that our present President loves their nation and many Americans care about what is happening there, no wonder that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, a recent visitor here with our President Trump, was all smiles hearing and seeing this nation's care and concern for them. Because of our concern for MAOZ during Israel's turmoil, we sent \$1,000 (in addition to what we usually send) to help them get through this season of terrorism from Israel's enemies.

How can we miss God's Word...God's Word

to Abraham recorded in Genesis regarding Israel. *"Then God said, No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants after him (my emphasis).* When God makes a covenant...an everlasting covenant...we can be certain He will follow through and we are to sincerely want what God wants.

We believe MAOZ is a vital part of Israel and we are so glad NFCC can be a small part of what is happening in God's beloved Land.

I have just briefly written about four ministries that we financially contribute to...and have for years...on a regular basis. There are others to which we contribute as well. One, being *Headlight in Trucking*, based in Pennsylvania, opened years ago by a husband and wife, dear friends. This vital ministry cares about a seemingly forgotten class, that being truckers, who carry their goods across America. Many of them stop in the chapel at a truck stop in Pennsylvania as they traverse this nation. They often need prayer and a kind word. They do get those two things along with a service in their *Headlight In Trucking* chapel. A host of them have received Jesus into their lives as Savior and Lord.

I titled this article as *Coming Along Side to Help* is really what we try to do. Maybe what I have written will cause you to want to reach out to help where ever you can. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you to some worthy ministry in your area.

JAN/FEB 2025 Offer

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

**This offer for two FREE books
ends on March 30, 2025**

FREE BOOK OFFER!!

"The God Who Gives Ideas"

and

**"Releasing God's Ideas by
Praying in the Spirit"**

By: Roxanne Brant

A Note from Liz Kirby, Office Manager

A couple weeks ago a gentleman from Nevada called the office to order the little mini book in this month's offer, "Releasing God's Ideas by Praying in the Spirit" He was ordering this book for himself and for his former pastor from California. He told me that his former pastor had over **500 inventions** through the years, and he testified that it all started after he read this little book many years ago. I would love to talk with him personally and hear more about these inventions!! His friend told me that after his pastor read this book, he and a small group began praying in the Spirit and waiting on the Lord for guidance and direction. How it changed his life forever!!

We also had a pastor order 250 of these books on praying in the Spirit for every member in his congregation!! And just this week another lady ordered several for herself and friends in her Bible Study.

As this little book says, "praying in the Spirit is a powerful and crucial key to birthing this last days' revival of God in its full strength across America and around the world. Many Christians know that praying in the Spirit is a mighty key to releasing effective intercessory prayer and that it greatly enhances our worship of God. However, I have found that the majority of Christians **do not fully comprehend** the fact that praying in the Spirit is also a tremendous key to releasing streams of blessings from God into our lives. It's a drawing-out of Heavenly ideas to meet earthly needs." I hope you take advantage of this offer!



Northern Florida Christian Center



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January-February 2025

This Month's Offer

We are changing our past offers of Christian books which you could order to **now offering FREE books** from this ministry.

We have quite a lot of several of Roxanne Brant's books, and we want to bless our newsletter readers by offering them to anyone who requests them...**FREE. Yes, Free.**

This month's offer consists of two of her books entitled *The God Who GIVES IDEAS* and *Releasing God's Ideas by Praying in the Spirit*. Both of these books have given great spiritual insight for many readers over the years.

All you need to do to receive these two free books, is to just send a note to us requesting them. If you already have these books, why not get this offer now for a family member or friend. You can enrich someone else's life by making this a gift from yourself.

We are asking for absolutely no money to pay for these books. If you wish—and only if you wish to do so—you can send \$5.00 to pay for shipping and postage. This is certainly **not required...just a suggestion.**

In our bi-monthly newsletters this year, we will be offering other books authored by Roxanne.

It is our joy to get these books into the hands of others rather than seeing the boxes of them stored here on the shelves.

We look forward to receiving your note to us.

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