

# Pastors to Prisoners Newsletter

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## **Matt 25:37-40**

<sup>37</sup>"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? <sup>38</sup> When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? <sup>39</sup> When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' <sup>40</sup> "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' NIV

## **News from RJ Donovan State Prison**

With the prisons in lockdown due to the Covid19 situation, I am staying in contact with Chapel members by sending letters to the inmates that are delivered by the Facility Chaplain Russell Martin. I would like to share the latest letter of encouragement and instruction.

### **To the Church at Donovan. Facilities B and A**

Greetings and blessings to you. First, we want to let you know this has been a true testimony to the saying, "You don't miss what you have until it's gone". We sincerely miss every one of you...ok...most of you (haha). I know you are staying Prayed Up, Head UP. I know you are walking and talking on the yard like you know Jesus! Letting the Love of Jesus light you up, and shine right through you for all to see. In these times of peril and pain, we must still be ABOUT OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS! In this time of trials and tribulation, we must still keep our eyes firmly focused on the Father and what he has in store for us. I would like to take a little time if I may and talk to you on the subject, "I MUST BE ABOUT MY FATHER'S BUSINESS". Luke 2:49 tells us that Jesus's parents were faithful people and went to the Feast of Passover to celebrate and commune with others. They showed themselves to be faithful people and took more than a day to travel there. They traveled some days, by donkey, to get to the service...and some of us won't walk across the yard or drive our cars 15 minutes. We sometimes won't make any effort to attend God's house. (cond. Pg 2)



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Mary and Joseph attended for a couple of days and then left. They had been gone one whole day, and I'm sure they were still talking, and rejoicing about what a good time they had. They thought Jesus was with other relatives in the group. Then in terror and worry they discovered Jesus was not with the group. I as a parent, and you if you're a parent, can understand the fear that grasped them. Where is our son Jesus! To be honest, some of us who claim to know Jesus...**HAVE ALSO LEFT HIM BEHIND IN OUR LIVES.** We have stopped being about our **FATHER'S BUSINESS** and concentrate only on **OUR** business. We are too busy doing what we want to do when we want to do it and have left Jesus behind. **WE NEED TO STOP, TURN AROUND, GO GET JESUS, AND PUT HIM BACK AT THE CENTER OF OUR LIVES.** It took three days of searching for Mary and Joseph to find Jesus. They didn't give up, so we can't give up. Don't ever become tired of seeking Jesus. Understand, know and believe that the Devil wants you to stop seeking Jesus. He will put obstacles in front of you to detour you, tire you, dissuade you, and dismay you.

Mary and Joseph discovered Jesus was not hanging out with other children. No, the 12yr old was not out playing. Jesus was talking with the Doctors. Not just talking with them but exchanging ideas. He was not just listening quietly like a child among adults. He was not like a child that is to be seen but not heard. He was not told to, "Be quiet boy...grown folks are talking". Oh no...he was not only an equal of the Doctors, he transcended them. He was superior, they knew it and were astonished at his questions and his answers. They had not witnessed anyone like Jesus. He was clearly **ABOUT HIS FATHER'S BUSINESS.** When they found him after three days Mary said to her son Jesus, "Why have you worried your Father and I by having us look for you". Jesus says, "Why are you looking for me? Didn't you know that I **MUST BE ABOUT MY FATHER'S BUSINESS?** He asked his mother those questions because he knew that his Mother...Mary...already knew who he was, and more importantly, what he came here to do. **HE CAME HERE BECAUSE HE MUST BE ABOUT HIS FATHER'S BUSINESS!** Jesus didn't say, I should be, I could be, or may be. He said, "I **MUST BE ABOUT MY FATHER'S BUSINESS.**" He used the word **MUST** more than once while he was teaching. He said I **MUST** Preach the Kingdom of God to other cities (Luke 4:43). The Son of Man **MUST** suffer many things (Luke 9:22). That Ye **MUST** be born again (John 3:5). I **MUST** work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work (John 9:4). See, When Jesus says **MUST** the elements of Earth, Wind, Fire, and Water move and bow to his will.

When his **FATHER'S BUSINESS** was concluded. While he was still on the cross. With his last breath. He let everyone know that his Father's business was finished by saying, "IT IS DONE". This is so powerful to know all this about Jesus and his commitment to the **FATHER.** But now, let's make it personal. The important question for you, for me, for us is...**AM I ABOUT MY FATHER'S BUSINESS;** Is his business **MY BUSINESS?** Let us ask the man in the mirror that important, insightful, convicting question. Let that question resonate, ruminate, marinate slowly in your mind, body and soul. **AM I ABOUT MY FATHER'S BUSINESS? THAT IS THE ULTIMATE QUESTION WE MUST ASK OURSELVES.** We may be gone

from the chapel for a while. But when we return, make no mistake about it, we are returning with a renewed commitment and desire to do God's will on the yard. If you believe and receive this, **SOMEBODY SAY AMEN!!**

Sincerely, and with the Love of God,  
Pastor Elliott and Mama Rose

