

# The Good News

Newsletter— November 2015

A Publication of University Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, MS

**The purpose of University Baptist Church is, through guidance of the Holy Spirit, to assemble and worship God, to love and encourage one another, to proclaim the gospel of Christ, to minister to all people, and to live in peace.**

**In a world where difficult issues remain, University Baptist Church continues its commitment to be a church where “there is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male or female, for (we) are all one in Christ Jesus.” (Galatians 3:28)**

Faith is hard to see sometimes  
but like air it is real  
and just as necessary  
when life is lived with purpose.

Confusion overtakes me.  
Give me sight outside myself.  
Let me hear outside myself.  
Let me understand the meaning of hope.

Peace like a river roll inside me.  
May I never depart from it.  
May your spirit transform me  
Though I fail I will follow.

Where there is darkness  
make me light.  
Where there is hate  
make me love.  
Where there is indifference  
make me compassion.

Let me not fear my dark moments  
knowing you are not afraid and need not wait on the dawn.  
Your strength never sleeps even when I do.  
Embrace me.  
Remind me of your grace  
to receive it,  
to give it.

David Woullard, UBC

### ***Don't Become A Wicked Servant***

(Matthew 18:32)

“Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me'...”

The following was written by Stephen Powers in 2001-- he has had two strokes and currently has an aneurysm on his brain:

“As we read the parable that Jesus told to his disciple Peter about a king wanting to settle accounts with his servants, we hear of the one who owed the king but begged him to have mercy on him and to forgive him and give him another chance. The king did. But then that servant went to settle an account owed him by another servant who begged him to forgive him and give him another chance. But the servant would not and instead grabbed the one who owed him by the throat and said, “I won't forgive you or give you another chance.” And the servant had the one who owed the debt thrown into prison. Other servants saw what he had done and went to tell the king. And the king was mad and called for the servant and said to him, “I forgave you and gave you another chance because you begged me, but you can't give your brothers or sisters a chance?” He called him a wicked servant and threw him into prison. So you see, the king is Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior who as already settled accounts with us his servants. And when we do something wrong we beg him to forgive us and to give us another chance. But when our brothers or sisters do something wrong to the people we love, we want to grab them by the throat and throw them into prison for what they have done. Just as the king called his servant wicked for not forgiving and give his brother another chance, Jesus will call us wicked servants and will not forgive and give us another chance. But just as we throw our brothers and sisters into prison for when they have done something wrong or owe us, our Lord and savior Jesus Christ will do the same to us. For the devil and his demons want us to be as wicked as they are and wants us to be servants for them. Jesus doesn't want us to become wicked servants, but to be there for each other. Jesus is asking us, His servants, to look inside our hearts, souls, and minds when someone owes us or does something to us. Jesus is asking us that we love, that we forgive, and that we give them another chance instead of becoming wicked servants throwing them into prison until we are satisfied, because he will do the same to each of us. In Jesus name we pray, Amen and amen.”

**Copiers Note:** Copying this letter I am caught by the passion of the commentary. We must always pay close attention to the teachings of Jesus yet be very careful not to infer too many applications beyond the context. This parable obviously throws the spotlight on hypocrisy of the forgiven showing they have not understood forgiveness. When Jesus uses a parable with multiple characters we must beware of giving any of them the full role of God. The king was an authority figure surprised by his servant's selfish nature. God is not limited to such human nature. When we are sinned against, even if we must press the matter in council for protection, we must work to understand and pray compassionately for the sinner. I suggest the lesson here is that a believer who cannot feel compassion for others likely has not truly understood or fully received its gift into his or her own soul. This is a gut check for us all.

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### ***Long Shot***

Wilbur B.

Alone in my home made of concrete walls,  
Horses like sheep, put away in their stalls.  
If not one is lost, Lord come to find me,  
I'll repay the cost, but I'm locked away free.

God grant me the courage to live up to your name,  
And put away my old self so full of sorrow and shame.  
This burden is heavy so my mind won't change much,  
Here is me – reaching out, but corrupt hands can't touch.  
So I give you my heart, pull me out of this grave.

*Truly Free*  
Dennis O'Rork  
(read John 12:35-40)

Here I am in the bondage of this prison cell  
Now I reap what once I did sow  
Only a 'sneak peak' of what some will see in Hell  
I cannot say I did not know

His word once delivered, I would not see  
I went my way and not His way  
One look at my life would show I did not believe  
Until he stopped me cold one day

How blind I was until He opened up my eyes  
I sure was blind, but now I see  
So long did I follow Satan's many lies

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*Thy Will – My Joy*  
Lucy M.

Father, thy will is highest joy,  
Thy plan is deepest peace.  
At thy right hand, in thy employ,  
Thy pleasures never cease.

There are no steps in Thee too slow,  
No paths in thee too long,  
No task too hard, no place too low,  
Thy gifts are life and song.

I trust no choice of my design,  
Too short my sight, too blind.  
I wait in peace, O Lord, on Thine,  
Whose eyes are keen and kind.

Thy choice is right, Thy paths are sure,  
My life in Thee is blest,  
Thy mercies mine forevermore,  
Thy home my ceaseless rest.

*Is Jesus Really Enough For you?*

Tony B.  
Parchman, MS

Though the fig tree should not blossom and there be no fruit on the vines.  
Though the yield of the olive shoot should fail and fields produce no food.  
Though the flock, should be cut off from the fold and no cattle in the stalls.  
Yet I will praise the Lord, I will glory in my salvation ; Habakkuk 3:17-18

Is Jesus is really enough for you? What if you were never leave the physical confines of prison as a free individual? Sometimes God strips you from success so that you can really trust in him. There are times Jesus wants you to have nothing so that you might learn to abide in him. The apostle Paul reminds us that Jesus will supply our every need. This thinking is contrary to what the world says. The world tells us that success is more important than failure. How can we have joy? Having joy means trusting in Jesus in all situations. We all have difficult times that steal our joy. We need to let Jesus be our guide to help us during the dark times. Jesus wants us to have a lifelong relationship with him. We need to show compassion to others and anchor ourselves with the gospel. We need to abide our souls with the cross of Jesus. We need to remind ourselves of this thing: Abide in Jesus! God bless (John 5:7 ) Abide in Jesus! God Bless.

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*I Love Jesus!*  
V Williams

For God so loved the world, he gave us his son : so that whoever  
believes in him shall not perish but, will have life everlasting .  
(John 3:16)

God has told us again and again what we should do. All we need to do is obey him. What Jesus is telling us is not new. It did not fall off a turnip truck or happen yesterday. It did not just come to us via the internet. It happen a long time ago—two thousand years ago—on a hill called Calvary. Jesus died for me even though my soul did not yet exist. Jesus was made fun of, talked about, and laughed at. He took a beating, and was stabbed with a spear in his side. Nails were driven in his hands, and Jesus was hung on a cross, dying for me. Jesus cried for me because he loves me.

I know somebody is saying, “Jesus died two thousand years ago, how does his death relate to me? Let us look at a few things in the present. He woke me up and fed me. He has clothed me, and he got me here safely. I'm in my right mind. Jesus will be with me despite everything in my life not being good or going according to plan. Jesus has all of my life, and I know that I am loved. Think about your life, and you will see Jesus is at work in it. John 14:6 tells us Jesus is the way the truth and the life and no man comes to the Father except through him. So who are you going to love? Jesus!

God Bless.

*THE DIVINE EXAMPLE*  
Pedro Alvarez JR  
Forrest County Detention Center

(Mark 14:32-41) Jesus never ceased to be the example! In the garden of Gethsemane Jesus was being an example by showing Peter, James, and John how to pray in the times of trial. In verse 32 he told the disciples to "Sit ye here, while I shall pray." Then verse 33 says, " And he takes with him Peter, James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be heavy". Now these two verses tell us that there were 11 disciples with him when Jesus told them to "Sit ye here" before he took those three with him. Judas Iscariot was already gone because we know he's the "sell out". In verse 34 it says, "And he says to them, 'My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here and watch.'" Of course he means of course is "Keep awake!" Right! Twice Jesus told them to keep awake or watch. (Verse 36) Jesus demonstrated an act of denial by praying, "Nevertheless, not what I will, but what thou wilt" (Not my will, but yours!) In verse 37 Jesus saw Peter sleeping--his chosen one upon whom he will build his church--and he told Peter, "You couldn't stay awake for one hour?" See, Jesus chose Peter and the other two for a reason--to give them an example! In verse 38, Jesus says, "Watch and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak." Jesus kept telling them "Watch and pray, Keep awake", and this verse tells us why.

To me, this scripture is more than showing that Jesus has human emotions; it shows me his purpose for doing this, the purpose that was his only reason for coming to earth--that purpose was his being an example and dying for our sins, making an atonement for us, and being resurrected so that we can receive the promise of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus really wasn't scared of this! Many times he predicted his own death and his resurrection! Matthew 26 tells this same story, but what caught my eye was Jesus' reply after Peter cut off the ear of one of the High Priest's slaves (Matthew 26:53). "Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels?" We already know that one legion is about five to six thousand Roman soldiers--now multiply that by twelve! Amen!

Jesus wasn't scared! He was giving us examples! BECAUSE JESUS IS GOD!  
(Verses to look at: Ephesians 5:14; 1 Thessalonians 5:6; Revelation 16:15)

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*I LIVE LIFE*  
Justin H. Underwood

Recently I wrote a piece in the newsletter called "Today" and there was a statement I made that "I fight for life every day without living life." I received a lot of good responses from that piece, but a dear friend and brother in Christ asked me what I meant by that statement. What he asked me was in no way negative, but only to understand my perspective of "living life". My response was that I live in a prison constrained or controlled by the penal system.

I want to live life without these constraints so that I can love, marry, have a family, go to church, vacation, etc.! Everything I do is in a controlled environment meant to punish me! My good friend and brother understood that and he wanted me to know that I do live life every day freely and without any constraints from man. He told me that I live life through all the people that I touch with my every word glorifying God, through my thoughts for others, through my love shown toward all God's children, and through my prayers. What he said lingered on my mind for awhile, and then I remember the life that Jesus lived and how he sacrificed himself upon the cross for everyone; for our sins.

I'm not Christ by any measure but I've come to realize that it's not about me and my own desires for how I want to live. We all have a purpose in life and my purpose right now is to continue to reach the hearts and souls of everyone seeking all the riches of his righteousness. When I search my heart and my soul each day, I am hoping to strengthen myself so that I can draw in as many brothers and sisters in unity of fellowship for a life of salvation in God!

I'm very thankful to my dear friend and brother, Mr. Dick Allison, for helping me to see that I live life every day. Dick, I always appreciate your wisdom and your insight. I pray that we all continue to live in one another for the gift of eternal life from the Almighty. God bless everyone!

*I Live Life*  
(cont. from previous page)  
Justin U.

I live life through you through  
me,  
Becoming the everything I'm supposed  
to be.

Lifting each other to heights  
unforeseen,  
Surrendering all to our Almighty  
King.

I live life through the purpose of  
fellowship,  
Once separate, we are now joined at  
the hip.

Climbing over mountains to Heavenly  
places,  
Basking in the glory of all His good  
graces.

I live life to live life purely and  
beautifully,  
Enjoying all the wonderful blessings He's  
given me.

United, we are one in fellowship with a  
wholly bliss;  
Signed, sealed, and delivered by His  
immaculate kiss.

## *THE LORD IS HOLY*

by Christopher Lee

Text: Leviticus 19:2

Through the Word of God our Heavenly Father is known by his many attributes (Sovereign, Righteous, Just, Wise, Loving, etc.). But each of his many attributes has its contrast whereby it is known as a backdrop. These contrasts do not take away from God's attributes (as nothing can diminish ought of God's being); rather the contrasts serve to magnify the attributes.

For instance, God's Grace is known to us through the manifestation of his Mercy, which in turn is known by the contrast of his Wrath, and how much we are rightly deserving of that Wrath. God's Love for us is manifested in contrast to the degree in which we were complete enemies of God (Romans 5:10) and the extent to which Christ went to demonstrate that Love (John 3:16).

In much the same way, God's Holiness is known in contrast to our own corruption. God is intrinsically Holy, which means that he is holy by his very nature: all that God is, is Holy. By contrast, the Bible verifies that human beings are wicked by nature (Jeremiah 17:9). For this reason, even our very best works are considered as "filthy rags", or soiled menstrual cloths (Isaiah 64:6).

It is easy for us to understand that this contrast stands as the ultimate separator between man and God. The Holy Nature of God prevents his fellowship with man, whose nature is unholy. Any contact between the two would be diametric opposition--an outright denial--of the utter Holiness of God. Because God's Holiness may not be diminished, such fellowship cannot be had, and the separation is all the more sure.

Our text verse then seems to be a contradiction of terms when we consider that the Lord is absolutely Holy and humans are absolutely unholy. How can man whose very nature is so unlike God be anything resembling God? We note that this verse is the only time in which God speaks directly to the entire Israelite community. Other times, his command is to the elders and heads of the people. This is important because the command to be holy is binding on all, regardless of position or social standing.

As we have seen, it is impossible for the Holy nature of God to have fellowship with the unholy nature of man. And yet the injunction to be holy, and the reason therefore--because the Lord is Holy--forms the main message of the entire Bible and is restated in the words of Christ: "Be ye therefore perfect, even as you Father who is in heaven is perfect" (Matthew 5:48).

"Perfection" here speaks of more than spiritual maturity as many teach, but intimates the actual perfect adherence to the Divine standard which his law demands. The perfect law of God reflects his perfect nature and reveals the depth of man's corrupt nature. The simple giving of the Law reveals that we are unable to keep it because in the absence of Holiness the Law demands death. In order to keep the entire Law its death penalty must be paid in addition to the perfect adherence to all points therein.

Jesus therefore commands a thing that is only possible by his Grace. All of man's religious posturings are defiled by the corruption resident in his Flesh (Romans 7:18), so that even those deeds done in Christ's name may be termed as works of iniquity without his Grace (Matthew 7:23). And so by his Grace we overcome the corruption of the flesh by the imparting a new Nature (2 Peter 1:4), which is created in Righteousness and true Holiness (Ephesians 4:24).

Thus we are born-again into a positional Holiness to be like God, being made partakers of his divine nature. But our text verse also indicates a practical form of holiness whereby we are to live a life that reflects the life of Christ in us. As much as God is Holy, so too are we to live a life of Holiness and to instruct our children in the same. God commands the entire community of his covenant people to live a life of Holiness in service to him. This Holiness separates his people unto himself and from the world. We demonstrate this practical Holiness through a life of worship, and the weightier matters of the Law: judgment, mercy, and faith (Matthew 23:23). This means that we are to live a life that reflects the Holy Nature of God (Hebrews 12:14).

Child of Grace, we need to know that God is Holy and that he is more concerned with our Holiness than our happiness. At no time does the Lord say, "Be ye happy." To the contrary, he gives us to know that our happiness--our Blessedness--is to be realized in a life of obedience to him, knowing that the Lord is a rewarder of those who diligently seek him (Hebrews 11:6). Our command, our purpose, is to be like him. We must therefore be Holy, even as the Lord our God is Holy.

*What is the Price of Character?*

JK

Have you ever wondered what kind of a person God is seeking after? Is He looking for a mighty warrior who can strike down the enemy with a slingshot and a stone? Or, is He looking for a person whose prayers can call down fire from Heaven and consume a sacrifice? Do we truly know anything about what kind of a person God desires to have with Him in heaven?

There is a popular network which has as part of their advertising campaign the slogan, "Characters welcomed." I'm not sure but in watching this network I think it is safe to say that their definition of character differs from mine. As I see it, they are looking for "fruits and nuts" and I'm thinking that a person with character is someone who possesses biblical values.

In Romans 5, the Apostle Paul puts forth a thought that many Christians shy away from because of its implications. Romans 5:3 states, "...we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; perseverance proven character, and proven character hope..." (NASB). Not being critical here, but many American Christians seek comfort over tribulations and leisure over proven character. Ouch... that's my toes you're stepping on God.

Isn't it interesting how Americans will "cry in their beer" and sing of "heartbreak hotels," but ask them to suffer for the sake of Christ and we will find ninety reasons why we can't make it to church on time or serve in the Children's Ministry. As a child of the 1950s and 60s we were taught to be independent thinkers; to be our own person; to cut our own trail through life. Today, children are taught to fear independence; to "cooperate and graduate," to play nice with others, and to be offended when someone calls them a hateful name.

So, where am I going with this thought? Not sure, but for some reason God has been telling me to toughen up and learn that, generally speaking, suffering for Christ is not all bad. If God is working in all things for the good of those who love Him, then suffering has a positive side and we need to stop complaining about what is happening to us and toughen up.

The Bible tells us in several places that "God heard their cry." Crying out to God is not necessarily the same thing as complaining to God. Crying out seems to imply a broken spirit as in the case of the Israelites suffering under the burden of slavery crying out for deliverance. Complaining to God implies dissatisfaction as when we complain about the work location God has given us; "Why do I have to work with these heathens Lord? Deliver me and let me work someplace nice." We often forget that our place of employment is the field in which we are to bring forth the harvest.

In a lesson that I am preparing to teach for my Tuesday night class, the author points out that there are two words in the Christian language that should never be put together in the same sentence. Those two words are, "No, Lord." His reasoning is, if we can say, "No" to Jesus then Jesus is not Lord of our life... and without a show of hands, how many of us HAVE said no to God?

I have found that the real challenge for today's Christians is not resisting the urge to say no, but it is the willingness to say yes.

Proven character... walking with integrity before God...is saying yest to the Lord knowing that our obedience will result in some kind of a sacrifice for us, but also knowing that God will be glorified by our actions and that a crown awaits us.

Just a thought.

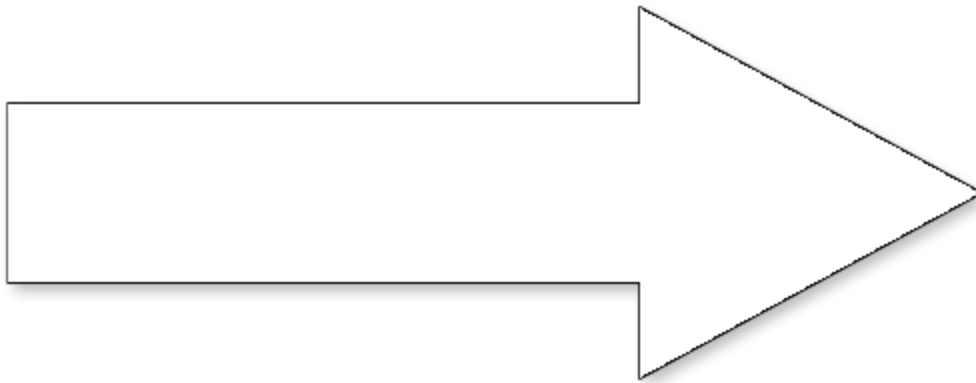


## *Faith Facts*

There are countless scriptures in the Bible that correlate with and reaffirm one another in the truth and inerrancy that is the Word of God. Some of these scriptures pertain to the first and second coming of Christ, but many of them pertain to our faith, salvation, His love, grace, mercy, and strength. In 1 Peter 1:20-21, the Word says, "But know this first of all that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God." The word prophecy comes from the Greek word prophetela meaning prediction, scriptural or other. It particularly has to do with predictions about future events, including the declarations, exhortations, teachings, and directions of the Bible. These are all written by persons designated by God, under the divine influence and guidance of the Holy Spirit. 1 Peter 1:20-21 and 2 Timothy 3:16-17 correlate and reaffirm the words of Jesus to His disciples in John 16:13, "But when the spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears He will speak, and He will disclose to you what is to come." You see, the Holy Spirit is not just the writer of the Bible we read today. The Holy Spirit is also the guide as we read it. Jesus wasn't just speaking to His disciples when He said, "He will guide you into all the truth." He was also speaking to you and I. There are many ways the Holy Spirit guides us, and one of those ways is through the correlation and reaffirming of scripture with scripture. The Bible is the Word of God and the revelation of truth. And this truth, Jesus Christ, is our instruction and outline of God's plan for man's redemption. I encourage you to spend time every morning in the Word of God, praying for the Holy Spirit to guide you. God Bless. Romans 10:17, John 1:1, 1 Corinthians 16:23-24.

Kingdom Kid

Song of the month: Tramaine Hawkins: "What Shall I Do"



Turn the page for your monthly *Gospel Games*

Gospel Games  
(correlative connection)

Instructions: Look up the following verses and identify the meaning of each verse. Each meaning is also a correlation between that verse and another verse. Once you have identified all 10 verses, you can then look up the correlative verses at the bottom.

- |                            |                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Joshua 1:8 _____        | _____                |
| (meaning between verses)   | (correlative verses) |
| 2. Colossians 4:2 _____    | _____                |
| 3. 2 Corinthians 8:9 _____ | _____                |
| 4. Obadiah 1:15 _____      | _____                |
| 5. 2 Corinthians 9:8 _____ | _____                |
| 6. Ephesians 4:22-23 _____ | _____                |
| 7. Nahum 1:7 _____         | _____                |
| 8. Ephesians 6:12 _____    | _____                |
| 9. Luke 12:35 _____        | _____                |
| 10. Jeremiah 15:16 _____   | _____                |

Meaning Between Verses

- \* Propitiation for our sins
- \* Obedience in faith
- \* The battle is not ours
- \* His grace is sufficient
- \* Pray without ceasing
- \* The Word is joy
- \* Brand new you
- \* Reaping what you sow
- \* Be alert
- \* Our help in trouble

Correlative Verses

- \* 1 Thess. 5:17
- \* 2 Cor. 10:3-4
- \* Phil. 2:6-8
- \* 2 Cor. 5:17
- \* Psalms 46:1
- \* Jn. 15:11
- \* Gal. 6: 7-8
- \* 2 Cor. 12:9
- \* James 1:25
- \* 1 Thess 5:6

Clarence Jordan's *Cotton Patch Gospel* interprets scripture into modern day speech and even recognizable places. Below is his translation of the Beatitudes.

Matthew 5: 1-16

*When Jesus saw the large crowd, he went up the hill and sat down.  
His students gathered around him, and he began teaching them. This is what he said:*

*The spiritually humble are God's people, for they are citizens of his new order.  
They who are deeply concerned are God's people, for they will see their ideas become reality.  
They who are gentle are his people, for they will be his partners across the land.  
They who have an unsatisfied appetite for the right are God's people, for they will be given plenty to chew on.  
The generous are God's people, for they will have spiritual insight.  
Those whose motives are pure are God's people, for they will have spiritual insight.  
Men of peace and good will are God's people, for they will be known throughout the land as his children.  
Those who have endured much for what's right are God's people; they are citizens of his new order.*

*You are all God's people when others call you names, and harass you and tell all kinds of false tales on you just because you follow me. Be cheerful and good-humored, because your spiritual advantage is great. For that's the way they treated men of conscience in the past.*

*You all are the earth's salt. But now if you just sit there and don't salt, how will the world ever get salted? You'll be so worthless that you'll be thrown out and trampled on by the rest of society. You all are the world's light; you are a city on a hill that cannot be hid. Have you ever heard of anybody turning on a light and then covering it up? Don't you fix it so that it will light up the whole room? Well then, since you are God's light which he has turned on, go ahead and shine so clearly that when your conduct is observed it will plainly be the work of your spiritual Father.*

Jordan, Clarence. *Cotton Patch Gospel: Matthew and John*, Macon, Ga: Smyth & Helwys, 2004.

We invite you to read this version along with other versions of scripture and put them in conversation as we all work to come closer to and know more of a great and multifaceted God.

In Peace & with Great Hope,

Kat

The Good News will begin posting facts or stories about the death penalty on this page. If readers and contributors would like, we invite discussion in the form of articles or prayer.

Thank you.

#### Some Death Penalty Facts:

- *Over two-thirds of the countries in the world—141—have now abolished the death penalty in law or practice. In 2010 the overwhelming majority of all known executions took place in five countries—China, Iran, North Korea, Yemen, and the United States.*
- *Since 1973, 140 people have been released from death rows throughout the country due to evidence of their wrongful conviction. In this same time period, more than 1,200 people have been executed.*

[www.amnestyusa.org](http://www.amnestyusa.org)

*\*A Seattle University study examining the costs of the death penalty in **Washington** found that each death penalty case cost an average of \$1 million more than a similar case where the death penalty was not sought (\$3.07 million, versus \$2.01 million). Defense costs were about three times as high in death penalty cases and prosecution costs were as much as four times higher than for non-death penalty cases.*

*\*A recent study commissioned by the **Nevada** legislature found that the average death penalty case costs a half million dollars more than a case in which the death penalty is not sought. The Legislative Auditor estimated the cost of a murder trial in which the death penalty was sought cost \$1.03 to \$1.3 million, whereas cases without the death penalty cost \$775,000.*

*\*Defending a death penalty case costs about four times as much as defending a case where the death penalty is not sought, according to a new study by the **Kansas** Judicial Council. Examining 34 potential death-penalty cases from 2004-2011, the study found that defense costs for death penalty trials averaged \$395,762 per case, compared to \$98,963 per case when the death penalty was not sought.*

*\*A new, but limited, study of the costs of the death penalty in **Idaho** found that capital cases are more costly and take much more time to resolve than non-capital cases.*

*\*A recent study published by a Duke University economist revealed North Carolina could save \$11 million annually if it dropped the death penalty .*

*\*Each death penalty case in Texas costs taxpayers about \$2.3 million. That is about three times the cost of imprisoning someone in a single cell at the highest security level for 40 years.*

*\*The average cost of defending a trial in a federal death case is \$620,932, about 8 times that of a federal murder case in which the death penalty is not sought.*

[www.deathpenaltyinfo.org](http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org)

#### **Possible Newsletter Name Change Please detach and send in your preference**

- No Change—I like “Good News”
- Redeeming Voices
- Hope Beyond the Walls
- Partners in Hope
- Other \_\_\_\_\_