

January-February 2019



**ROCK of AGES
MINISTRIES**

"For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord." II Corinthians 4:5

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Dear Pastor, Church & Praying friends,

"By long forbearing is a prince persuaded, and a soft tongue breaketh the bone." Prov. 25:15

A close friend recently challenged me to spend some time with the Lord in this verse. I began to ponder on what a help this Scripture can be to God's children as we press on into 2019. Many of us are battling battles we've not faced before, *but*, by long forbearing the prince can *still* be persuaded! A soft tongue will *still* break through hardness! AMEN!



ON HOME SOIL...

The year began with the annual Rock of Ages prison coordinator's meeting, which was both encouraging and challenging as we prayed and sought the Lord for effectual ways forward in the prison systems in 2019. Shortly after that was the annual Pearl, MS prison blitz. What a blessing the meeting was, as the team led by Brother Kendall McCracken were privileged to see over 60 inmates confess Christ as Lord! I was also privileged to preach a Youth Missions Day for a Pastor in Alabama. It was a blessed day, yet the greatest encouragement for me was in thanking God for the vision of possibilities that lies within the next generation!

Next was an extremely busy time preparing for the annual South Alabama Prison Campaign including two days driving from institution to institution touching base personally with Chaplains ensuring everything was in order. This was the 10th anniversary of the meeting and the year I was honored to coordinate after the home-going of our brother in Christ Michael Kelly, from whom I have learned so much over the years. Together with Brother David Roth the Lord led us to seeing 105 saints of God attending (16 Pastors, 52 church members & 37 Rock of Ages missionaries!). Eight institutions were reached during the week, which also saw **1 officer saved during services!** Homeless groups were ministered to through Brother Larry Key and his team, seeing **1 saved**, and the housing estate known as "The Jungle" was once again reached with the Gospel. **One lady was saved** while cleaning rooms in a hotel, and another was **saved in KFC!** In total, the Lord allowed us to see **192 professions of faith this year!** (Details are attached to this letter.)

TESTIMONY...

As a man came forward I asked him what he needed. *"I need to be saved!"*, he said. I checked with him that he had understood the preached message, and shared some Scripture with him. He said, *"Sir, please would you open your Bible again. I don't remember the words. I don't know what to say."* I reassured him that just as he & I were talking, so it is with God, and encouraged him to talk to God just as he had talked with me. His voice shook a little as he prayed, *"Father..... please forgive me. I need to be saved. Please would you save me, in the name of Jesus. Amen."* When a man recognizes there's no acceptance of the Father without personally acknowledging the Son, it is a blessed moment indeed! What a privilege to be a part, as you are also, through your support & prayers! AMEN!

OVERSEAS...

BRAZIL: Please pray for Brother Rod & Sister Natalia Dinardi. From Brazil, they have applied as full-time missionaries with Rock of Ages and plan to be in Candidate Classes in March. I've had the pleasure of working some with Brother Rod in Brazil and am delighted at the thought of the Brazilian team extending to seven missionary families!

INDIA & NEPAL: The work continues in India after the success of the Christmas program. Please keep praying for the opportunity to meet with the inmates after services. In Nepal, we are still praying and looking for another worker for the weekly ministry. Please pray as I seek to make another visit to both works later this year.

PHILIPPINES: I plan to make my first trip toward the end of September, to meet our national missionaries and workers.

...AND THANK YOU for your continued love, care, prayers and support as we move on for the glory of God!

Brother Mark Waddington & family

Praise:

- **The work that God did in the lives of many at Pearl!**
- **All that God did at the South Alabama Prison Campaign!**
- **The assurance of Proverbs 25:15 – let us not forget!**

Prayer Requests:

- **All that professed Christ as Lord & Saviour at Alabama!**
- **Nepal: Another labourer for the weekly work!**
- **India: Opportunity to talk with prisoners after services!**

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