

LIVING FREE MINISTRIES NEWSLETTER

Tommy Wilson, Director

Issue Number 6

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This Week's Scripture:

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." NIV Matthew 25: 35&36

This Week's Thought:

If you are struggling with codependency-- or want to avoid falling into its trap-- you need to understand "The Three Cs."

* You didn't **cause** your loved one's life-controlling problem.

* You can't **control** it.

* You can't **cure** it.

You may blame yourself for your loved one's addiction or other life-controlling problem, but you need to accept the fact that you did no cause it. The Bible tells us that **each person is drawn into sin by his or her own desires**. Feeling that you are responsible for your loved one's behavior can cause you to experience low self-worth. You need to understand that your loved one is responsible for the choices that have led to his or her problems, no matter what the circumstances may be. None of us live in a perfect environment. Parents make mistakes. Spouses sometimes let us down. Friends may treat us badly. But we each have choices about how we will respond to adversity. We can blame other people for our choices, but they are not responsible. God gives us each opportunity to do right and has promised His help--if we want it. No matter what the circumstances, you have not caused your loved one's problem. He or she has made wrong choices. If you live in guilt over their choices, your own behavior will be controlled by your guilt. You may excuse rather than encourage them to face their mistakes. You may continually bail them out rather than let them suffer the consequences of poor choices. And so the poor choices will continue. Ask God to help you see the reality of the situation. Ask Him to help you let go of the guilt. Thoughts by Jimmy Ray Lee, D. Min.

From Tommy

To love " your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27). It's a love that notices the need of another person and won't rest until it's been met. It's a gentle, tender love that thinks and acts carefully. It's a sacrificial and compassionate love that a nameless Samaritan had for a fallen traveler. It's the kind of love God wants to share with your neighbors through you. You cannot touch your neighbor's heart with anything less than your own. God cares for you-- care for others. Have you made a difference in someones life?

Thanks to the many churches and individuals who support Living Free every month. I love what we get to do and if it wasn't for your donations to Living Free, we couldn't do it.

Due to a schedule conflict, the 1st. Annual Living Free Banquet has been moved to Thursday, April 29th., 2010 at Oakland Baptist Church. Banquet will start at 6:00pm. The Living Free B.A.D.(blessed and delivered) Guys schedule for the remainder of January: Sunday, January 24th—open Sunday, January 31st-- will be at Trinity Baptist Church in Michie, Tn.

It's easy to find reasons not to get involved. Busyness, indifference, and fear often top the list. Yet as we seek to follow our Lord faithfully, we will become more aware of opportunities to show the kind of compassion He showed(Matthew 14:14; 15:32; Mark 6:34) What's your reason for not getting involved?

Tommy & Marea Wilson

Psalm 40:2

Coming Up At Living Free:

This Thursday, January 21st our special speaker will be Steven Tidwell, from Belmont, Ms. We will start serving the meal at 6:00pm.

For Thursday, January 28th. our special speakers will be Butch and Linda Parker
Meal will be served, starting at 6:00pm

Don't Forget:

Women's Bible Study at 5:30pm- 6:30pm on Thursdays-- Trenia Marcum is the Group Leader.

Small Groups on Mondays at 6:00pm with Tommy Wilson, Truman Stockdale and Charles Carpenter

Men's Bible Study on Saturdays at 7:00am-- 8:00am (Biscuits and Donuts served)

Congratulations To:

Olivia Wilson, daughter of Tommy and Marea Wilson on her 2nd place finish at the District Free Throw Contest in Clarksdale last Saturday.

Chuck Eldridge 333 days smoke free!

Randy Garza 105 days free from alcohol!

Eddie Parker 1 year (January 18th) drug free!

Also, congratulations to Eddie and Fallon on their engagement!

Going On In The Community:

2010 is a census year. Every household should receive a 10 question form to fill out and return. The data collected on these forms will help communities receive more than \$400 billion in federal funds each year. The data also helps determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House Of Representatives.

The Girl Scouts started their annual cookie sales on January 8th.

Need Help With Your Health Care?

FREE CLINIC~ Every 2nd Saturday of the month at Gaines Chapel United Methodist Church, 1803 Hwy 72 W. ~ PICTURE ID Required~ Bring all medications you are currently taking~ Will see the first 100 patients~ Opens at 6:00am~ First come, First serve.

Magnolia Regional Community Care Clinic~ Dr. Thomas Sweat, Director

Located at 1001 S. Harper Rd(next to the Fire Station)

Fee is based on income

Must apply to be accepted~ call Phyllis at 293-1591

Need Help With Food?

AMEN Food Pantry~ Monday- Wednesday & Friday 9:00am- 12:00noon

Referrals Only 287-9727

Bread Of Life Ministry/ Tate Baptist Church~ Thursday Only at 1:00pm Walk Ins 286-2935

Lets Remember In Our Prayers:

In The Hospital, Sick, Or Hurt:

Bro. James Voyles's Father(Bobby) and Bro. James's Son (Josh)

Brandy Lawrence's Father (Donnie)

Chuck Eldridge having medical test this week.

Jim Bynum upcoming surgeries

All who are in need.

All our Military Troops and their families

Everyone in Rehab and those who should be.

Everyone in Jail or Prison.

Any unspoken prayer request.

Bible Trivia:

Here is a little Bible trivia to test your knowledge of God's word.

Yes or No?

1) Was the jailer who put Paul and Silas in the stocks eventually baptized?

2) Is the Lord's Prayer given twice in the Bible?

Answers will be in next week's newsletter.

We would appreciate your comments about the newsletter and if anyone has some information, a birthday, anniversary, church event, school event, or a community event, please write it down give it to Tommy, Marea or Don. You can also email your information and/or comments to Don at donaldivinson@netzero.net.