

Love and Compassion Ministries

In the Name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit

April 1, 2012 In The Year of Our Lord

NEWSLETTER



Celebrate Easter with someone you love.



The Easter season started on February twenty-second this year, on Ash Wednesday. Forty-six days from there the Lent season ends with Easter Sunday on April 8, 2012. The Lenten season is comprised of forty days, as the six Sundays in Lent are not actually a part of Lent. Sundays are considered a commemoration of Easter Sunday and have always been excluded from the Lenten fast. The Lenten season is a period of penitence in preparation for the highest festival of the church year, Easter.

The last week of Lent, called Holy Week, begins with the observance of Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday takes its name from Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem where the crowds laid palms at his feet. Holy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper, which was held the evening before the Crucifixion. Good Friday in Holy Week is the anniversary of the Crucifixion, the day that Christ was crucified and died on the cross. Holy week and the Lenten season ends with Easter Sunday, the day of resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Because God loved you and me, He sent His Son "Christ" to die for our sins so that we may have eternal life. Death could not hold him, He was raised from the grave on the third day (Easter). Because He lives, we are promised that we will live again also. Our faith will be rewarded. Read for yourself how you may receive salvation. John 3:16 - John 17:3 - Romans 3:23 - Romans 6:23 - Romans 5:8 - I Corinthians 15:3-6 - John 14:6 - John 1:12 - Ephesians 2:8-9 and John 3:1-8.

Easter makes life worth living, because we have confidence and hope for the future. Put your faith in the living Christ, to be your personal Savior and your Leader from this day on, for Jesus still lives!

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The Struggle of **Pride** and Complete Repentance

Pride assures us that we are not so bad.

Pride will agree to assistance but not to surrender.

Pride can be very respectable and moral

Pride will struggle to do better.

Pride does not understand why God calls us sinners.

Pride will not give God His rightful place.

Pride allows life to revolve around ourselves.

Pride keeps self on the throne.

Pride leads to a reprobate mind.

Pride enslaves us in the sin Christ came to free us from.

Repenting of **Pride**

Submit yourself to God.

Resist the devil.

Draw near to God.

Cleanse your hands of sin.

Purify your heart of double-mindedness.

One of the hardest deaths to die is the death to pride!



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT LOVE AND COMPASSION MINISTRIES

STREET OUTREACH MINISTRY

In early March our Street Ministry again ministered to the street people on Martin Luther King Boulevard. We served hot dogs, chicken, beans, and salads. More than 80 people came to enjoy the food and hear a message and invitation from William Stewart. We are really humbled, blessed and excited to watch this ministry grow and win souls to our Lord and Savior.



One of our faithful volunteers, Kelly Byrant, shared her enjoyment and blessing in a message she sent to Ron Willis.

What a blessing it is to serve.

If we are true followers of the Lord Jesus Christ then we need to be ready and willing to serve him in any way that we are needed. When we accepted Jesus as our Lord and Savior then we have committed our lives to him and that means he is Lord over us, as our bodies are not even our own. We serve him because that is our true hearts desire. Thursday I spoke with Ron Willis who asked for prayer over the Street Watch/ Love & Compassion Friday night meeting that was taking place outside on MLK Blvd serving the community with free chicken dinner, the Word of God, praise music and prayer. I went to assist any way I could, and I was the one who walked away blessed. I was blessed to pray with a team of Christians for healing of a woman named Tina who was to begin chemo treatments the next day, Harold with stomach issues, a man in a wheelchair, a lady who wanted to grow closer in her walk with the Lord, and one of 5 or so that came forward to accept Jesus as a result of hearing William's awesome testimony. I saw people in true darkness who are bound and do not know how to escape from the hand of the enemy that have a hunger for love and acceptance and seeking freedom. I know that God wants these people set free from the grip of the enemy. As we link arms with other Brothers and Sisters in Christ we can make an impact in this world one person at a time. Thanks for letting me serve. Serving Him, Kelly

DRUG PROGRAM MINISTRY

So far this year six of the addicted people we have talked with have let us enter them into a Christian Drug Recovery program. We worked with them and the programs, and now we will stay in contact with them and support them while they are in a program for 9 to 12 months. Ron Willis shared the story of one man he got into Faith Farm several months ago. Shortly after he entered the program he became very ill, and required serious surgery. The Directors, Administrators and teachers worked with this young man helping him see his future in a different light. After working with him for several months this young man accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior. That is when Jesus healed him of his

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illness. Remarkably, there was a scar where it would have been had he had the surgery. Despite his salvation and healing, this man contacted Ron several times, and said he needed to leave the program. Each time, Ron encouraged him to try a little longer. Even a few of weeks ago, he contacted Ron and said he couldn't keep going. Ron encouraged him to give it a little longer time. Ron said he felt God telling him to write the man, so he did, but he feared the letter might not get to the man soon enough, so he faxed it to Faith Farms. Ron poured out his heart for the young man and asked him to please stay. Later they talked, and the young man said he had to stay. He will graduate Easter Sunday, and since he has no family, Ron will be there to support him. After he graduates he will attend an occupational training program that Faith Farms operates. Isn't God wonderful?

YOUTH MINISTRY

Each week, one of our four teams goes to Crossroads Youth Camp in Punta Gorda. We feel so good when we share God's word and our life experiences with four to twelve boys who were sentenced to the youth camp because they have been headed the wrong direction. We are so excited to have the chance to change the direction for some. Each month the youth camp has a graduation, and this past month, four young men graduated. Many of their parents were there, and we were there to celebrate their graduation and to talk a little about our ministry. We gave each of these graduates a packet that contained a list of churches and a list of youth groups in the area they were returning to, a Bible, and a \$30 gift certificate for some sneakers. Our friends at Street Watch Ministries provided the Payless gift certificates.

We are always looking for Christians to get involved with the youth. If you can make any of the dates below please call 239-574-5683. We will set you up with a team that has been going out there for years.

April - 1, 14th, 15th, 28th

May - 6th, 12th, 20th, 26th

June - 3rd, 9th, 17th, 23rd

July - 1, 14th, 15th, 28th

August - 5th, 11th, 19th, 25th

September - 2nd, 8th, 16th, 22nd

October - 7th, 13th, 21st, 27th

November - 4th, 10th, 18th, 24th

December - 2nd, 8th, 16th, 22nd

The team meets at the Cracker Barrel on Highway 80 at 8:30 AM and leaves the restaurant in one vehicle at 10:00 AM to get to the facility at 10:30 AM.

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PRISON MINISTRY

Mark Decker, Love and Compassion Ministries' Vice President, gives this update on our Prison Ministry.

When Pastor Holbrook retired from McGregor Baptist Church, Ron Willis went to him and asked him to teach a class at the Stockade. Pastor Holbrook agreed, and all the inmates love him. At the end of 2011 Ron asked me to pray about joining Pastor Holbrook each Thursday night at the Lee County Stockade. Apparently the Lord had put it on Ron's heart to have me join Pastor Holbrook as he taught the inmates about our Savior. Because Pastor Holbrook had been my pastor for so many years and now I had another chance to learn from him, I agreed to pray about it and discuss it with my wife.

Pastor Holbrook knew me because I had led the Children's Ministry at McGregor Baptist Church for many years, and he had seen the fruits of that labor. So, after having lunch with Pastor Holbrook and Ron, we all agreed that we would try it. Ron set up an interview with Chaplain Stout, and after some paperwork was completed and a background check was run, I received my badge that allowed me to go in and teach.

Even though it seemed that Ron was pulling the strings for this to come about, we all knew it was God.

The first night I was amazed how Pastor Holbrook talked to the guys and how they responded to the Lord's calling. He was always an awesome pastor, but I found out very quickly that he has not lost any of his power to hold people's attention. When I left that first night, I was on cloud nine, and I also knew I was hooked. All the inmates and officers look forward to us coming in to teach, and I am being blessed beyond measure.

Pastor Holbrook has been under the weather a few times, and he has asked me to fill in and teach, and I am always ready. Many people are coming to know Christ through this ministry. I am so glad I have been able to be a part of something God is using to lead people to Jesus Christ's Saving Grace.



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Mail Your Donations to:

Love And Compassion Ministries, Inc.

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Cape Coral, Florida 33915

Thanks!

THE BIBLE'S WORDS ON OBEDIENCE

In all of our ministries, LCM tries to serve and obey the Lord as He directs us. What does His Word say about obeying Him?

Luke 6:46 "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you?"

James 1:22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Ephesians 6:5-9 Slaves, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free. Masters, do the same to them, and stop your threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with him.

James 2:24 You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.

Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose

2 Corinthians 2:9 For this is why I wrote, that I might test you and know whether you are obedient in everything.

Job 36:11 If they listen and serve him, they complete their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasantness.

THE PASTOR'S TEETH

A Pastor goes to the dentist for a set of false teeth. The first Sunday after he gets his new teeth, he talks for only eight minutes. The second Sunday, he talks for only ten minutes. The following Sunday, he talks For 2 hours and 48 minutes.

The congregation had to mob him to get him down from the pulpit and they asked him what happened.

The Pastor explains the first Sunday his gums hurt so bad he couldn't talk for more than 8 minutes. The second Sunday his gums hurt too much to talk for more than 10 minutes. But, the third Sunday, he put his wife's teeth in by mistake and he couldn't shut up...



Friends and Partners,

What has happened to us. Less than sixty years ago people took care of each other. We lived in small towns where life was good. Water was cold, good tasting and safe to drink. People worked hard and played hard. Everyone was kind, generous, and loving. People would leave their doors unlocked day and night. Everyone trusted each other. A man's handshake was gold. What a man said was better than a contract. People were genuine! They loved to get together and fellowship in each others homes. You felt love even from other children's mothers. When children were at other people's homes they knew that they better be on their best behavior.

Parents believed in punishing their children when they misbehaved and many times in front of the world. Neighbors helped neighbors. They looked out for family! When a neighbor was in need all came to their aid. People loved to gather around and help people in need. People went to Church three times a week and knew everything there was to know about family members. When someone died, everyone was at the funeral. People would cook and bring all kinds of food to eat after the service and for weeks after that they would check on the bereaved family.

Today, we hardly know our own family members. Divorce is the norm. You sign a contract and it is worthless. Corruption is everywhere. People go to Church once or twice a year, while hating those days. People have a passion to receive and hate to give. They moan and groan about their job, their mate, service they receive, and yet never give a thought as to how they can give.

God never meant us to live this way! John 13:34-35 says: ³⁴. *A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.* ³⁵. *By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.*

Today, can we commit to being a better person, Christian, neighbor, giver, and lover? Will you look to see how you can make a difference in someone's life? If you make a commitment, be sure that you know what you are getting into and the cost. Luke 14:33-35 says: ³³. *So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.* ³⁴. *Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be seasoned?* ³⁵. *It is neither fit for the land, nor yet for the dunghill; but men cast it out. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.*

I pray that God will bless each of us with the ability to know His desires as He gives us the ability to obey Him no matter what He asks, with all we have. May God bless you all.

In the Presence of our LORD,

Ron Willis

Ron Willis, President
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Stamp

**We're on the Web!
www.LoveCompassion.com**

**SEND YOUR PRAYER REQUEST TO ...
PrayerRequest@LoveCompassion.com**



If you would like to be a part of our exciting prayer team, please send us your e-mail address and we will send you updates of people who need our prayers.

It is a great privilege that we have, as sons and daughters of the KING, to be able to come into HIS presence with our needs, our hurts, and our cares.

We know that we can leave them at HIS feet because HE cares for us and will always answer us in our time of need.

Prayer requests are very important to us! We always need people who are caring and willing to personally pray for others' needs.

As we pray for their physical, moral, and spiritual needs, we must understand that because of JESUS CHRIST'S love for all of us, we are able to do this. CHRIST is the answer to every human's needs.

As members of the BODY of CHRIST, we have the privilege and responsibility to pray for our Churches, our missionaries, public officials, other ministries, and each other.

It is so exciting to see prayers being answered. May we always give CHRIST the Glory!