



Bonner Gospel Mission

Sewing the community since 1987

June 2021

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For God So loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whoso ever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.
John 3:16

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How we teach the men in the mission not to compare themselves against with one another

2 Corinthians 10:12 Not that we dare to classify or compare ourselves with some of those who are commending themselves. But when they measure themselves by one another and compare themselves with one another, they are without understanding.

I have found throughout my time working with homeless men that they seem to be stuck comparing himself against other people and that seems to keep them stuck and unable to move forward in repentance. What do I mean?

It is when man measures himself against man. This also gets in the realm of fear of man. I believe this type of comparison could be at the center of man's sin. For example, when the men see someone getting blessed with something, they immediately go inward and wonder why they are also not getting blessed.

I think we would be surprised how often in a day we measure ourselves against other people. What I mean by measuring ourselves with others, is basically trying figure out

- How well am I doing?
- Am I going in the right direction?
- How bad am I?
- How good am I?

This keeps the men focused on themselves rather than on the Cross. This seems to be like the original sin where man wanted to compare himself with God.

When Paul talks about measuring themselves against each other in 2 Corinthians. Paul tells us, “when we measure ourselves against others it leaves us without understanding”.

Job 28:28 Job says, “Understanding is turning from evil” so if we continue to live horizontally, meaning comparing ourselves with others, we will have a hard time distinguishing good from evil. We know that God has called us to be in the world but not of the world, meaning walk amongst evil but not get caught up in it. So if we are called to walk out our faith in an evil world, but not get caught up in evil, we make it harder to distinguish what evil is by comparing ourselves with others.

We can never say, “he or she is worse than I am” because we all need the same amount of the blood of our Savior, Jesus. And the more we understand this beautiful love from God; our attention goes from the curse of comparison; to joy filled dependence.

So, what we teach the men is that we are all sinners in need of a Savior and if we truly understood that, we would stop comparing ourselves with each other and start rejoicing in what God has done for each other!

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Mission Updates

New Mission Garden Is Now Planted!! We Are Excited On How It Will Help Show The Men To Produce Spiritual Fruit As Well As Real Fruit.

We just got done building our new garden. We hope to bless our men in the mission with a new sense of integrity and purpose as they learn how to raise real fruit in the garden, at the same time help them grow Spiritually.



Continued...

God has blessed our mission so abundantly, we and constantly amazed by His Grace. Now we would like show the men how to grow their own food, harvest it and be able to enjoy the fruits of their labor once again. I believe this could ignite the men in being the provider for their families that God has called them to be.

Even though we mostly eat off of donated food. My hope, is to show the men that, yes, they are extremely blessed by the donations from all the wonderful donators, but they also can learn to provide for themselves. They can prove to themselves, that they haven't lost the ability to work and enjoy the fruit of their labor. In other words, there can be some healing in teaching broken men how to grow their own vegetables in way to prove to themselves that they still have the God given ability to provide for themselves again. I am always looking for other (practical) ways to teach the men this idea of Christ centered self reliance.



Mission Needs

Pray Specifically For:

1. James Noriega as he navigates the day to day operations of the mission.
2. Our staff, to be able to minister to our guests with clarity, wisdom, discernment, patience, and the ability to listen well and give counsel that is in accordance to God's Word.
3. Our guests to have a sincere thirst for God's Word, to mature as new believers, and have a strong desire to attend a church that teaches God's Word.
4. The men to find true friendships with other believers.
5. Jobs for our guests: temporary day jobs or more long term ones
6. Our Nation, local community leaders, and emergency responders.

Ongoing and Special Needs:

1. Food: Hamburger, chili, chicken, milk, eggs, bread, cold cereal, bacon, sausage, casseroles that we can freeze, and chips.
2. Homemade meals are a real blessing to us. If you would like to provide a meal please call and we can set up a time.
3. Financial Support for monthly operations.
4. We are hoping to start re-siding and painting our buildings. We feel it's important to keep and maintain our facility because they represent our ministry to this community. One of the many blessings BGM enjoys is the fact that we have no debt, so any money that is donated for special projects goes to that project. Praise God.