



Bonner Gospel Mission

*Sewing the community
since 1987*

November 2020

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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
ever
lasting
life.
John
3:16

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Bonner Gospel Mission
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The Centrality of the Cross is a New Garment, a New Identity!

In Zechariah 3:4, God clothes Joshua with a pure garment and removes his filthy garments. God says, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments." giving him new clothes, God gave him a new identity. (Also see Isaiah 61:10 through 62:5 for a parallel story.) Believers, this is foreshadowing God's provision of Christ as the new garment to wear, the new identity to receive. We were once filthy and our identity was found in our sin and shame (Ephesians 4:20-24). Now, as a believer, you are no longer clothed in unrighteousness, guilt, shame, and condemnation. You have been given a new garment of the righteousness of God (Isaiah 61:10).

At the fall (Genesis 3) Adam and Eve tried to clothe themselves with fig leaves after forfeiting their perfect identity. God clothed them instead with the skin of an animal (Genesis 3:7, 21), showing us the very first foreshadowing of the Cross of our Christ. The covering of skin with the sacrifice of the animal by God was temporary. It was not to be the eternal way that God would clothe us. God had a plan. He was going to re-clothe us, not just covering our body parts, but renewing our whole soul with a new garment of righteousness, redeeming our identity to His.

Through the Cross of our Savior Jesus Christ, we have been given this new garment of justification which is the righteousness of God (Romans 3:21-31). The beauty in justification is the same beauty of the Cross. Sin has been dealt with. That gives us the new garment of righteousness. The Just, who is God, is also the Justifier. He passed over our sins and clothed us with Himself. By passing over our sins, He did not just ignore our sins. There had to be a payment for sins and that was death (Romans 6:23). We know that Christ died, paying for our sins. The main point here, like Adam and Eve, is we are no longer to clothe ourselves. That is the beautiful thing. We cannot clothe ourselves with the garment of God. He has to clothe us. In the same way, we cannot remove my old garment of unrighteousness. God has to remove it for me. Both taking off the old garment of unrighteousness and putting on the new garment of righteousness is supernatural. We cannot do either. God has to do it. How

can I give Jesus my sin? How can I give Jesus my garment without God taking it off? It is a miracle of God. Both the putting off of the old and the putting on of the new are equally miraculous works of God through the Cross of Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Most of the men who come to the mission are clothed with a fig leaf garment of shame, condemnation, and guilt that they have made for themselves, before they have accepted Christ as their Savior. We have to understand that they have become attached to their fig leaf garment, so that when we point out that they are wearing their own garment, we are speaking into how they identify themselves. The hope is, the Word of God and the Holy Spirit revealing the distortion of their old garment, they will begin to see how God is giving them a new identity. Through faith, they are no longer naked and ashamed (Revelation 3:18). This new identity works from the inside out. God exchanged our old identity with His image and likeness. Once this truth is realized in the men, then they become that beautiful New Creation that Paul spoke about in 2 Corinthians 5:17 "therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a New Creation. The old has passed away; behold the new has come".

In His service,
James Noriega

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Ponderay, ID 83852

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Steve's Cell: (208) 610-6074
James' Cell (206) 235-2902

Email: bonnergospel@outlook.com

Facebook: Bonner Gospel Mission—
Sandpoint, ID

Website: BonnerGospelMission.org

Mission Update

We have been full for a number of weeks now, so we added 1 new bed to our mission. In turn we added a 2nd house manager, so we can accommodate more men as needed. We have been amazed at how God is providing for us as we grow. You cooks out there know how tough and expensive feeding 8 to 10 men can be. Amazingly we have a small food expense because of God's favor on us through your donations. Thank you so much for your generosity.

We have added a evening Bible study for the men. They are loving the extra attention to Scripture. So, essentially, the men are committed to a Bible study every 12 hours and they are digging it. Also, the men would love company during meal times. If any of you men feel led to share a meal with them to talk about God's Glory while you eat it would be a huge blessing for our guests and, I am quite sure, for you as well. The meal times are 12pm and 5pm and Bible studies are 7am and 6pm.

If this sounds like something any of you men would like to do or if you have questions just give me a call (208-263-6698) or Email: bonnergospel@outlook.com
I'd be happy to chat with you about it.

We are gearing up for our annual community Christmas Day dinner. We hope to feed 100+ people within our community again this year. We already have one volunteer, so please contact us soon if you want to volunteer to get on our list. Thanks to this community's heart the list fills up fast. Contact: Steve 208-610-6074 or James 208-263-6698



For Sale \$1500.00
2008 Silver Chevy Cobalt
163000 miles, new tires

Sale Pending



God has blessed us with some amazing donors and donations these past months. A 2008 and 2010 Chevy Cobalt and a garage tool set for the men to work with.

We want to openly thank those who have been gracious in their giving to our Bonner Gospel Mission. We couldn't carry out our mission to the homeless without your support. The winter is closing in on us and we normally grow in our residents.

If God is laying it on your hearts to give, we will be so thankful and blessed to help our homeless population with your donations. We constantly pray for your Joy, for those who give to our mission that definitely Glorifies our God in the face of our risen Savior Jesus

Paul says in 2 Corinthians 9:7 "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

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 and to mature as new believers. And a strong desire to attend a church that teaches God's Word without apology.
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. Community Christmas Dinner needs: Turkeys, Hams, Deserts
4. Financial Support for monthly operations.

Praise Report:

- 2 men accepted Christ and 1 rededicated
- Remodeled laundry room completed
- Praise God for a good financial report