

# CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRIES



## From 'a Shepherding heart', as Director of CCOM

Dear faithful supporters of CCOM,

"Thank you" for partnering with us this past year! At CCOM we continue to talk to or see so many people that live day by day in a spirit of fear and confusion and who 'think' there's no way out of hopelessness, 'but' we're so "thankful" to be in place to sow a seed of faith, bless-ed hope and love into the ones that will listen to Godly encouragement and counsel, straight from God's word! Many have suffered great loss of either of a loved one, a job, a marriage, etc. during this 'challenging' Covid season we've all been going through! 'BUT', our God reigns supremely over the just and the unjust! We continue to clearly let each person know that Jesus "is" the way, the truth and the life...John 14:6

Recently we were touched by 2 'success stories' or testimonies from sharing the God News of Jesus Christ! You will read...1--The Gospel was shared and responded to (our mission), 2-The impact it made, 3-it mattered to their souls!!! We pray you all will be encouraged with "the heart change" that resulted from time spent with them through what I call "Brother time" and/or Sister time", our 2 ministry programs at CCOM. I spend time ministering to the men God sends to us and Dr. Iris Barrett ministers to the women, thank you Lord...

- 1- Hello, my name is Carlton and I had no idea God was setting me up to "change my heart and change my thinking" when I called to make an appointment at CCOM! I initially called hoping to receive some assistance on a power bill but soon realized God had me come to CCOM for 'so **much more**'! My family and I are going through some very hard trials right now and coming to see Brother Steve at CCOM bolstered my faith in Christ in such a dynamic way! Yes, he did partially help us on our power bill, but more than that, "he invited me to join in" to a men's group that meets every Tuesday and it's throwing gasoline on my heart for Jesus each week as I physically struggle with a deadly

illness called leukemia! To be loved on by other brothers from various backgrounds has shown me a level of “kingdom living” I badly needed!!! **“Thank you”** for supporting CCOM, this is a real Christ centered ministry that more people need to support and know about! C.U.

- 2- These past few years have been a struggle for me and my family, not only financially, but also spiritually! As usual, our Father God gives us what we need in His timing! I was directed to CCOM and Brother Steve Workman by some special ladies at Pregnancy Care Center. I adore these ladies and genuinely believe they knew how referring me to him would bring me back closer to God! I couldn't believe how God spoke through Brother Steve that day to help me 'understand' how far off track I had become with Jesus!!! He reminded me of God's unfailing love and lovingly warned me too that those God loves he also corrects! He truly helped me 'see' that bad things can be used for God's glory when I truly seek Him with all of my heart and all of my being! I now see God desires to order my steps and how I need to get more in tune with His Word and His Spirit so as to be led by Him, instead of my flesh!

**He prayed for me as if he'd known me my whole life and I can't tell you what that did for my broken spirit!!!**

He also helped me in a practical way towards a power bill, but the power of the Gospel presented to me again was the greatest blessing of all, it brought me back where I needed to be with God! Helping me reaffirm my faith in Christ and rededicate myself to Him mattered most of all! He also blessed me even more by giving me follow up info about Dr. Iris Barrett and how I could receive 'more' Godly counsel as I need it in time. **I'm very “thankful”** for CCOM because they are real with the Gospel. M.F.

**THANK YOU**, faith-filled supporters, be encouraged and know that Gospel seeds sown never return void because God's word doesn't return void! If you could support us again in 2023 we would be eternally grateful and so would those God allows us to minister to.

Sincerely in Christ,

Steve Workman,

Executive Director of Christian Community Outreach Ministries

**Note: CCOM is in need of a part-time qualified book-keeper on a voluntary basis, one hour per week!**

## Distraction or Peace: Choose Wisely!



Supporters, we thank you for your heart for CCOM. You contribute willingly to the needs of others. God bless you!

Let us contribute to you with this writing about distractions that press us in these times and how to find focus!

**Read this story** and see if it resonates.

### *How to Distract Christians*

A Christian minister told a *story* of Satan's conversation with his demons about how to gain victory over Christians. All the suggestions had to do with distraction:

- 1) Make them dizzy with non-essentials.
- 2) Make them work long hours to maintain empty lifestyles.
- 3) Discourage them from spending family time because when homes disintegrate, there is no refuge from work.
- 4) Over-stimulate their minds with TV and computers so they can't hear God speaking to them.
- 5) Fill their social media feeds with the latest news so they have no time to read the Bible and spend time with God.
- 6) Involve them in good causes so they won't have time for eternal ones.
- 7) Keep them self-sufficient (busy working in their own strength) so they'll never know the joy of God's power working through them.

What is God's remedy for these distractions? It is Isaiah 26:3 (NLT): "*You [God] will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!*" Yes, God keeps those whose minds continually turn to Him in perfect peace because they trust Him.

**Focus** is not always easy. The Apostle Paul called our walk with God a "*good fight of faith*" (1 Tim. 6:12). This walk requires us to be deliberate, focused, and intentional. One way is to make time for God in our lives: Spend time with Him in His Word and in prayer. Pray God's Word until things move and the path forward is revealed. Ask, and God will provide!

Let's not allow life's distractions to impede us. Avoid being **BUSY - Busy Under Satan's Yolk**. Instead, "set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" (Col. 3:2). God bless you!

