



“Strengthening The Saved - Saving The Lost”

May 2018

Dear Friends,

Back on May the 10<sup>th</sup>, I had a supporter forward this article to me on FaceBook with a note that said, “Paul DeNeui there is a huge need for your ministry.” I’d like to share it with you.

*May 7 at 10:24am*

*I officiated a funeral this morning for a man named Charles Turner. An only child, he was born in Tyler, TX on April 14, 1945. He never married and had no children. We don’t know much about Charles’s life, but he spent the last 30 years in a nursing facility as a ward of the state. Charles was a double amputee and had severe dementia. He loved Dr. Pepper and enjoyed sitting outside.*

*I’ve done many funerals, but this one was different. Charles was completely alone. As far as we can tell, he had no friends or surviving family members. The funeral consisted of me, the funeral director, and a social worker.*

*Friends - There are people in your community and my community like Charles. We may not see them, but they are there. My prayer today is that God would help us see the lost, the lonely, and the hurting in our own backyards. No-one can befriend everyone, but everyone can befriend someone.*

*Today I’m thankful for the valuable ministry of those who visit the nursing homes. You won’t ever make headlines, but what you do matters.*



Tuesday, May 1, 2018

### **Tahlequah/Stilwell**

It's May 1st, and a new month. This morning I was ministering in Tahlequah and met a woman who is fairly new to the facility. She arrived in December, but said she stayed in her room until recently. (As I understand it, she was very depressed when she moved in and did not want to do anything.) Now she is seeking the Lord. During the message when I said, "As long as you are breathing, God still has a plan and a purpose for your life", it went right to her core. Now she knows she has a purpose. She has a smile on her face. She is ready to follow the Lord again. She said, "The Lord has brought me back from a dark place." We continue to: Strengthen The Saved & Save The Lost, throughout eastern Oklahoma.

Wednesday, May 2, 2018

## Warner/Fort Gibson



This morning, I had one of the largest groups I've ever had here. This is the first facility I ministered in over 8 years ago. And this is the facility where the Lord reminds me of my call. He also reveals things from time to time. Today was one of those times. I knew that residents can be lonely, but I did not realize how lonely. Loneliness can lead to depression, and depression can lead to many negative things. What I saw this morning was a lack of hope. A lack of purpose. A lack of faith. There are many residents who are in nursing care facilities not because of age, but because of other physical or mental issues. Some residents are quite young.

I was reminded of my 67 Chevy. Back in the 70's I had a buddy rebuild the engine - high dome pistons, 3/4 cam, holly 4 barrel, headers, etc. The outside of the car looked the same. You couldn't tell any difference by looking at it. But when you put your foot to the pedal, that's when you could tell the difference. Faith is like that. Faith must be used. Faith without works, or without action, is dead.

I prayed for many this morning. Then I asked them to do something they hadn't been able to do – say something, do something, move something. It was wonderful to watch. God is bigger than our problems. He has already done everything necessary for our every need. I told one gal, "This is like having power steering in your car. It's wonderful when you use it. But if you never touch the wheel, if you never turn the wheel, it doesn't do you any good. It doesn't help you at all. It must be used."

Thursday, May 24, 2018

## Muskogee/Muskogee

We had a great morning. This facility brings in every resident they can. We always have a large group here. This morning we talked about operating in the God kind of faith. 1) Believe in your heart and 2) say with your mouth. It could be speaking to your mountain or it could be speaking to God in prayer, but it's speaking with the mouth in either case. Some call this the authority of the believer. After the service there were several residents who said, "We learned something new today." Then they wanted to know all the verses I used so they could study them for themselves. Praise the Lord!



I want to re-share a line from the front page:

*"Friends - There are people in your community and my community like Charles. We may not see them, but they are there. My prayer today is that God would help us see the lost, the lonely, and the hurting in our own backyards. No-one can befriend everyone, but everyone can befriend someone."* Together we are making a difference. Thank you for your faithfulness.

*Paul D. Miller*

