

February 2024

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Within a few months after Roger's salvation at the age of 19, the Lord Jesus impressed upon him a life verse found in John 15:16a where Jesus told His disciples, "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should remain". The Lord Jesus has and continues to fulfill this promise in our lives.

We are in a new year and 2024 marks significant milestones in our lives and ministry. What is significant about this year?

- 1. We will celebrate 50 years of marriage June 1. We have been and continue to be so blessed to share life together in marriage.
- 2. This year marks 50 years of serving our Lord and sharing God's Word together in a variety of settings including pastoral ministry, children's ministries, pastoral counseling and with our family.

In the nation of Israel, the 50th year was the year of Jubilee or liberty and freeing all that were oppressed (see Lev. 25). All debts were to be forgiven and property returned to the original owners of land. Slaves were also freed. It was a year in which the land rested, and people rested from their labors and took a sabbatical as they celebrated God's goodness and grace.

As we looked back over 50 years of ministry, we realized it's time for us to take a sabbatical we've never taken. Our office will be closed Feb. 28—Apr. 5. We plan to take our camper and go south where it's warm for most of that time. We would appreciate your prayers for a safe restful time and of being refreshed to continue to serve the Lord Jesus and His people.

We thank you for standing with us through prayer and/or financial support and encouragement in 2023 to help give married couples, individuals, and families the opportunity to experience the Lord's healing work in their lives and relationships. We just completed our 18 th year of ministry through Restoration Ministries and look forward to seeing what God has in store for 2024. We are including (or attaching) our 2023 annual report.

Laborers together with you in Christ, Roger and Brenda Daum Restoration Ministries

MEET AN ASSOCIATE

Our 5 Associate Pastoral Counselors are an important part of Restoration Ministries. We will begin recognizing one of them and their spouse in future newsletters. Please pray for them.



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Testimonies

A husband and father writes a thank you for our training of counselors,

"Thank you for your godly insight into the need to multiply your ministry through training interns. We met with [an associate counselor] this past year and appreciate their wisdom and caring love."

A couple writes, "We sat back and marveled with amazement as we were led through the process that allowed God to break down barriers and perform what we considered to be a miracle for our marriage. We will be forever grateful for this ministry. We give God all the glory for what He has done for us this week."

A couple writes, "Thank you for using your talents and abilities God gave you to help others in deliverance. We needed help and God worked on our hearts and changed our lives."

A couple writes, "This week has transformed our lives and our marriage. We leave here renewed in Christ and excited for the future."

A couple writes, "We are so very grateful for the work the Lord has done in our hearts in setting us free from all the bondage we've held inside and forgiving those who hurt us as well as each other."

A husband writes, "I can only thank you and our Lord for helping me at 85 years of age reconcile with my wife of 38 years."

Bring Restoration Ministries to Your Church!

if a group or church is interested in the various conferences we offer, you can download a description of available conferences at: restorationministriesonline.org/conferences.html

Insights for Delationships A Painful Lesson from Kidney Stones

Brenda and our daughter Larisa, who is a nurse, have told me for several years I need to drink lots of water every day to flush toxins out of my system through my kidneys. Recently I had a very painful lesson concerning the need to take in more water. Small kidney stones formed and made their painful journey through the tiny tube that connects my kidneys with my bladder. If you've had that experience you know its painful. Thankfully those 3 small stones completed their journey without having to be surgically removed.

As I pondered this life lesson the Lord reminded me of the vital importance of taking His Word into my life every day.

- In John 15:3 Jesus told his disciples "You are already **clean because of the word** I have spoken to you."
- In Psalms 119:9a David asked "How can a young man cleanse his way?" Then he answers the question "by taking heed according to Your word."
- In Eph. 5:26 we read Jesus cleanses His bride (believers) "with the washing of water by the Word."

Someone has wisely said, "God's Word will keep you from sin and sin will keep you from God's Word." As we consistently take in the water of God's Word and apply it in our personal lives, our marriages and our family, His Word will reveal the toxins of sin in our lives and will bring about the daily cleansing we need so we can avoid the pain and consequences sin brings into our lives. We encourage you to make sure you are consistently drinking in and experiencing the cleansing power of God's Word through applying it to your lives.

- 1. Praise God for His faithfulness through the past 18 years of ministry.
- 2. Pray for 8 interns who are or will be taking training this year to be pastoral counselors.
- 3. For God's blessing and wisdom for our associate counselors as they work with people in their area. Pray for them as they raise financial support to sustain their ongoing ministry. Anyone desiring to help support one of these counselors may contact us for more information.
- 4. God continues to use our partners (the Gastons) in the Philippines to train pastoral counselors internationally. Please be sure to see the update in the annual report.

Praise & Prayer Hems