



For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

Merry Christmas Partners!

Here at JMM **our purpose on earth is to be a hand extended for the lost, needy, bruised and broken.** Jesus came to save what was lost and heal the brokenhearted! We are taking that commission further into the world and we cannot do it without you, our precious Partners. **YOU are the reason why JMM clothes the naked, feeds the hungry, saves the lost and restores the hopeless.** You make it possible for us to reach people on the other side of the world with the Message of Salvation. And **people are responding to the Gospel like never before.** We receive phone calls, letters, emails, Facebook messages and other various forms of communication from people across the globe that have been in one way or another touched by this Ministry. **It would not be possible without your prayers and financial support.**

As you know, in the month of December, John Militaru Ministries puts together goody bags for impoverished children in remote areas to enjoy during the holidays. These children sometimes barely have enough food and heat during the winter months, many of them wearing second hand clothing and shoes. They certainly don't receive any presents like our children do here in the US and because of your generous support, our team is able to physically go into these remote, run-down areas and put a smile on a child's face for Christmas. With the help of these goody bags, the parent's of these precious kids **heard the Word of God preached for the first time and MANY accepted Jesus** in their hearts! What a wonderful opportunity we have as the body of Christ to be a hand extended for the Kingdom of God during the time of the year when we celebrate our Savior's birth!

Thank you to all of you for partnering with us for this project and helping us fulfill our goal of over 4000 goody bags; 3000 in Romania and 1000 in the Republic of Moldova! This year we had the opportunity to visit new areas that have not yet heard about Jesus. YOU make it possible for us to reach these sweet people with the message of salvation through these goody bags. We were able to provide 5 tons of non-perishable food to these families also. We use these gifts and food as tools to be able to reach the forgotten ones and share with them the message of Jesus! That's our ultimate goal each December and throughout the year—to reach people for Jesus. And although you could not physically go and assemble and hand-distribute these goody bags, you share the same reward as those of us who went (1 Sam. 30:24)! It's not about who goes, **it's about how we allow God to use us and move through us that really matters.** There is a light inside every believer that needs to shine brightly in this dark world like never before.

The question is- are we allowing Jesus to shine His light through us here at home? Singing and reading about Jesus during the holidays is only part of it. Our ultimate calling is to win people over for Jesus. We must allow the love and compassion of Jesus to SHINE through us brighter than at any other time of the year. Why? Because *you and I may be the only Jesus that someone will see today.* Let's read the following verses from 1 John 4 together

In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another...¹² If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us).

Now let's look at verse 12 in the Amplified Bible together: ***No man has at any time [yet] seen God. But if we love one another, God abides (lives and remains) in us and His love (that love which is essentially His) is brought to completion (to its full maturity, runs its full course, is perfected) in us!*** (V12 AMP)

Christmas should serve as a reminder of the sacrifice that God gave on our behalf but it shouldn't stop there. We need to ask ourselves is the love of God living and remaining in me and being perfected in me? Have I been moved by His love enough that people see Him living and moving through me? Our world needs JESUS! Our world needs to be loved and shown the mercy and goodness of God and we are the ONLY hope for that. The Bible says that we are the hands and feet of Jesus (1 Cor 12:27). People are searching and starving for Jesus. They're trying to fill that void with other things. Some are seeking after the first love they **had** for Jesus. Have we lost our first love? Have we become lukewarm? We have to get it back so that we can give it to those that are starving for it! People need to see and feel Jesus through our life, without us even opening our mouth. God did His part already by sending His only Begotten Son to earth in human form. Your part can be as simple as a smile to someone that looks like they need love. Your part may be buying groceries for someone who can't afford to feed their family this Christmas. It may be that you lend an ear to someone who is alone this Christmas. Whatever the Holy Spirit leads you to do this season, be obedient. Listen to the whispers from the Holy Spirit and not just now during the holidays, but even throughout the year.

Friends and partners, YOU and I are the only Jesus some people will ever see. **We have to do our part, in our little corner of the world, to extend the love of Jesus to others.** We have been given mercy and grace and love, it's time now to give it back in the SAME measure to those who are really hurting. We are telling you this based on the numerous phone calls that pour into this Ministry on a **daily** basis from people all over the world who are starving after the love of Jesus. During His earthly ministry of 3 ½ years, Jesus offered love and compassion to the multitudes. In Matthew 9, Jesus said the harvest is so great but the REAL laborers are few.

³⁵*Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages of that area...*³⁶*When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.* ³⁷*He said to his disciples, "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. ³⁸So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields."*

We are the laborers and **we** are called out into the fields. Are you one those workers? It's not "somebody else's problem". It's an issue inside the church and **we are the church.** Are you willing to make a commitment this Christmas season and beyond to let your light shine brightly? Jesus needs you and I like never before to be His hand and His feet. Allow the precious love of Jesus to brighten someone's day. You may even brighten their entire season with just one act of kindness.

In Him was Life, and the Life was the Light of men. And the Light shines on in the darkness, for the darkness has never overpowered it.

John 1:4-5

Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year from the JMM staff and our Family!

John, Alexandra, Claudia, Danny, Emmanuel, Andreea, Ezekiel and Grace

