

Gospel Gazette

Salt Lake City Mission, P.O. Box 142, Salt Lake City, UT 84110 - Phone 801-355-6310 November 2008

PRAYER REQUESTS

Dean Berg is requesting prayer for his friend who has severe pneumonia. He is also asking for prayer for his mother who has just been released from the hospital. In addition we would ask that you pray Dean is strengthened in the inner man, healed from epileptic seizures, and strengthened by God's love. Also for God's clear direction for his life and strengthen his trust in God.



Dean Berg

This request was made while Dean was in the Salt Lake City Mission's Discipleship Program. That was nearly three years ago, March 2006 to be precise. Since then, Dean is seizure free and has seen his friend John recover from pneumonia quickly. In addition, his mother is doing better and able to share in his new life.

What a blessing it is to see precious souls healed and transformed.

Dean began working in the hotel business right out of the program. A year ago, he transferred to a better job, still in the hotel business and has moved up the ladder to become a hard working, trusting and dependable employee. Dean is much more than an employee though, he is a confident, happy, good man, with the ability to maintain a nice apartment, put food on the table and enjoy a good life, while helping others whenever he can.

Looking back, I remember how things were. Just four years ago, Dean was on the street, sick and struggling to survive. Many may have thought Dean was too far gone, lazy or a hopeless drunk. Wow, the rationale we can entertain to turn away from helping our fellow man. I guess we see what we want to see. Thankfully, Dean proved many wrong by taking advantage of good opportunities. Dean is a testament to God's goodness.

When I consider all that God has done for Dean, myself and many others, I can only rejoice and be humbled by His love. I'm reminded how everyone can be restored and kept when we love and trust God with all our heart, mind, body, soul and strength. God's amazing grace, working through family, true friends and many people we may never know. It feels good to know that hundreds of people are helping thousands every year. **AWESOME!** Once again, I believe we really do need each other in this journey called life.

P.S. By the way, if you see Dean in downtown area one of these days, ask him what is needed to overcome life's difficulties and set backs. He not only knows the answer. He is living it every day. **Praise God!**

The bad economy, all the funds raised for elections and the increased homeless population due to foreclosures, the war, etc. has placed us in a dire need for funds. **We really need your help to continue holding our feeding events for the homeless and to continue to help and serve the homeless throughout the rest of the year!**

Here are some simple ways you can help us today!

Easy Ways to Help Us Raise The Much Needed Funds

1. Donate \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1000 or more yourself and ask all your friends to match your donation.
2. Ask 20 friends to donate \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1000 or more and encourage them to help raise funds by asking all there friends to match their donation.
3. Ask 10 friends to \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1000 or more each and encourage them to hold a food, clothing, coat, sock, underwear, blanket, hygiene kit, toy, ect, drive explaining why you are why you are donating to help feed the homeless
4. Pick up our self mailers from our Corporate offices and send them in letters to family and friends, explaining why you are donating and encouraging them to match your donation.
5. Pick up our self mailers and information from our Corporate offices and take a walk around your neighborhood. Visit all your neighbors and ask them for their support encouraging them to match your donation.
6. Pick up our self mailers and information from our Corporate offices and take them to your work or business explain to your fellow workers why you donated to help feed the homeless and encourage your fellow workers' match your donation. Also if your work has a matching donation program encourage all your fellow workers to use it with their donations.
7. Arrange a dress-down day at work. Anyone dressing down will have to pay. Be sure you have a sign that says, "Please excuse our appearance today, we are dressing down to feed the homeless through Salt Lake City Mission . You could request donation of \$25 to \$50 or more per person to dress down. You could arrange these on a weekly or monthly basis.
8. Pick up our self mailers and information from our Corporate offices and take them to your Church, Club, School or any social group and explain to them why you are donating to help feed the homeless and encourage them to match your donation.
9. Pick up our self mailers and information from our Corporate Offices and hold a food, clothing, coat, sock, underwear, blanket, hygiene kit or toy drive.

TRULY THANKFUL

In September of 1620, 102 individuals left Plymouth, England to find religious and civil freedom in a new land. After facing high seas and bitter elements they arrived in what is now known as Massachusetts.



After giving praise to God and signing the "Mayflower Compact" - America's first civil government document, they set foot on Plymouth Rock, December 11, 1620. Most of us learned this story in elementary school. Then we were told how the pilgrims and the Native Americans had a great Thanksgiving feast, which is true but many renditions of the story leave out the prayer service and what everyone was truly thankful for.

The Pilgrims first year in America killed nearly half of the settlers through starvation, sickness and the bitter New England winter. Yet continuing steadfast in prayer, and helped by the generous Indians, the following spring and summer brought great blessings of food, health and friendship. On December 13, 1621, the pilgrims and the Indians celebrated for 3-days, giving thanks to the God who had brought them to their promised land and through the trials that come with God's promises.

When God brought Israel to the Promised Land, many did not enter God's promises because of the fear of the harsh realities of life. They didn't trust God could take care of the giants they had to fight. They were scared of the large walled cities and the seven enemies in the land caused them to feel discouraged, humiliated, shamed, rejected, disconnected, insecure and inferior.

Today we can still struggle with truly being thankful to God for His provisions. Do we trust God to, "still the giant storms" in our life? Are we looking to Him to bring down the barriers of bitterness, regret and unforgiveness we may have built up through the years? Do we realize His Word can encourage us, lift us up and remove the guilt and shame of past failures and let downs? And most important, He accepts us just as we are.

"God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but they shall have ever lasting life. God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him." (John 3:16-17).

That's something to truly be thankful for!

**Have A Very Happy
Thanksgiving !!!**

December 31st is Near

The end of the year will soon be upon us... and before we know it a new year will dawn. Here are four gentle reminders to help you end the year in charitable style:

1. **Charitable giving benefits you, as well as the charities you care about. A special year-end gift during "The Season of Giving" can bring you added pleasure; especially as you consider the help your gift will give us here at Salt Lake City Mission. You will enjoy knowing that your generosity has made a difference and will help us to fulfill our worthy goals. And, of course, there are usually tax benefits related to charitable giving.**
2. **Appreciated assets can make dandy gifts. For example, if you have owned stock for at least a year and a day, you can receive full value for the gift, including all the appreciation. What's more, neither you nor Salt Lake City Mission will have to pay capital gains tax on the gift. Your tax advisor can spell out the specifics for you. Mutual funds, real estate and other appreciated assets can make great gifts as well.**
3. **Tax-wise charitable gifts often require advanced action. A stock gift usually takes more time to complete than writing out and mailing a check. Real estate gifts require even more time - often several weeks. You should also plan for time to discuss your non-cash gift with your attorney or financial advisor. Getting appointments and handling the paperwork takes time. So... start early!**
4. **A life-income plan may make sense for you at this time. These deferred giving plans allow you to establish a gift arrangement now, obtain current tax benefits, create a stream of lifetime income and provide a future gift to Salt Lake City Mission. They are especially attractive to donors who cannot afford to give up current income from retirement related assets.**

To Learn more, call Philip at (801)-388-1968, or Brad at (801)-355-6310 or visit us on the internet at www.saltlakecitymission.org

