

Christmas Greetings from all of us a RWJM,  
As we conclude our 43<sup>rd</sup> year of ministry it continually amazes me the dedication and support we receive from each one of you. There are many things that have come and gone in the last forty plus years but we are here, continuing to serve our Lord because of your prayers and support, Thank you.

We have again grown and added new mission fields, God has provided chaplains in new places and we have partnered with other ministries to come alongside the racing community in a unified fashion. As we look back what could have overwhelmed us, God helped us through it all.

One of the words that signifies the season is hope. Hope is a word that indicates anticipation, we hope for things, the things to come. Hope begins the season of preparation that leads up to the celebration of the birth of Christ, I wonder what is on your Christmas List?

What do you hope for? I was thinking the other day that hope is universal, we all have hope in something. I have never met someone who desired to be hopeless. Being hopeless leads to many places that are not beneficial to us. I think we would be safe in saying that having hope is necessary to living life.

We hope to be ready to minister to an even larger community in 2024. We have new horizons to explore and new workers to welcome. God has already unfolded new opportunities for us. Where will the New Year take us. What do we hope for? What do we value more than anything? Sometimes

we don't understand the value of something until we lose it. Talk to those who have lost a loved one. Or someone who has endured hard times. Many us have learned the value of just living in freedom as we did before the time of quarantine and pandemic. We hope for things to return, back to the way they were. We may not have realized how good we had it until it was gone.

Peter took the time to encourage us to tell people of the hope we have in Christ. He knew that it was important for everyone to know that life is different when we have hope in Christ. Peter encouraged us to share that hope.

*1Peter 3:15; But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.*

Helping people find hope in Christ is what we do. We meet people where they are and give them hope in their despair, hope in their sorrow, hope in life. Each of our lives has a story, we have a history. When we come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ our lives change direction. We do an about face and head down the road that leads to God instead of running away from him. When we put our hope in Christ, we have a story to tell.

We are blessed that you have come alongside and supported us as we share this hope. In this season of hope the hearts of men are tuned to receive the gift of life that comes from knowing Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Take this opportunity to proclaim the Good News of Great Joy! Take this time and be prepared to give an answer to everyone the reason for the hope that we have.

It is with excited anticipation we look ahead with hope. I am sure of the God we serve. He is good, He has a plan, and His Will will be accomplished. It is with that assurance we say thank you for your dedicated support of His mission through us. You are the ones holding our arms up during the battle. Your encouragement means more than words can express.

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year,  
Rev. Don and the entire RWJM Team