



The GREATEST GIFT



Holiday times are often filled with gifts wrapped in colorful paper, tied with ribbons and waiting for that much anticipated time of UNwrapping! But, the greatest gift we

could ever receive did not come wrapped in any grand fashion. Rather, it was sent into the hustle and bustle of a sin-filled world. No big fanfare. Many did not even realize what had just happened in a stinky, smelly stable—God had sent His one and only Son, Jesus! The King of kings and Lord of lords had come to seek and to save those who were lost in sin. Years later, Jesus would freely give His life in sacrifice upon the cross for our sin. God's GREATEST GIFT, His Son, brought us the GREATEST GIFT of salvation! That gift is there, simply waiting for us to "unwrap."

Ray, a young man we serve with Down Syndrome, unwrapped God's GREATEST GIFT this summer! Over the summer/early autumn, due to Covid restrictions on indoor programs, H*VMI held outdoor Drive-In Bible Clubs at our property. Following one of the clubs, Ray's mom sent this email:

"We've been praying since December especially for Ray's salvation. His grampa went to heaven this January. Last night I had a meeting so I sent Ray to Bible Club with brother, Richard. Today, Ray kept pointing

to Richard and the clock, very insistent, even signing, 'Please.' Finally, this evening he wrote, 'Richard bag.' He wanted his papers from Bible club that got left in Richard's car!

"The papers were retrieved, and Ray's first priority was to show me the Gospel wheel. [A tool developed by H*VMI to share the Gospel using pictures.] We 'talked' through it, and he was very animated and wanted to pray! I think he may understand!!!! We also made the cross craft and hung it in the window.

"Richard reported that Ray made him tear up a little because when the Gospel was presented, Ray wrote 'Grampa!' His memory is good, and he was spot on in connecting heaven with where grampa is, just like we hoped he would!

"Could it be that God would give me an extra special blessing that Ray would understand and say, 'YES!' to Jesus 20 years TO THE DAY after I did? July 9, 2000 was when God broke through to me and I accepted [His gift] of salvation. Just having Ray's name in the Book of Life would be enough, but to share the Birthday with him?! Talk about exceeding abundantly more than I can think! I will continue to talk to Ray about it and watch for fruit, but I am writing July 9, 2020 in his Bible. We serve such a caring, wonderful Father. Please keep praying for Ray for even deeper understanding and a fruitful life. Thank you so much for your ministry and for faithfully presenting the Gospel. You may have added another crown to your reward!"



The NEED

- Approximately 6.5 million people in the United States have an intellectual disability. As many as 200 million people globally have an intellectual disability. [specialolympics.org]
- Having an intellectual disability is defined as impacting a person's ability to learn, reason, make decisions and solve problems. Abstract concepts are said to be difficult, if not impossible, to fully understand.
- So how can anyone with an intellectual disability come to know the Lord? Easy answer. God's Spirit is NOT disabled! His Spirit prompts, gives understanding beyond

our cognitive ability, draws us to Himself and ultimately helps us make the decision to accept Jesus' offer of salvation. Statistics and definitions do not count when it comes to God's ability to do above or beyond what our minds can comprehend!



"With God's power working in us, God can do much, much more than anything we can ask or imagine. To Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus for all time, forever and ever. Amen." Ephesians 3:20-21 (NCV)



Your gift, one-time or regular, helps H*VMI continue to share and equip others to share God's GREATEST GIFT with our friends like Ray! Thank you!

GIVE ONLINE now at: hvmi.org/donate TEXT GIVE to: 717.210.4759 or MAIL: H*VMI, PO Box 122, Akron PA 17501.



Enhancing Trust

Please PRINT your contact information below.

▲ Name

▲ Street or PO Box

▲ City

▲ State ▲ Zip

▲ Phone #

▲ Email address

This is updated contact information. I prefer to receive H*VMI mailings by email.

I/we would like to help H*VMI through a financial gift of: \$ _____

Method of Payment: Cash Check (Please make checks payable to H*VMI.)

Credit Card #: _____ CVV _____

Exp. Date: _____ / _____ Visa MasterCard Discover AmExpress

Name as it appears on card: _____

Signature: _____



H*VMI Ministry Center — Property Development ✓ List of Remaining items



- ✓ Land Development Plan Submission—done November 19, 2020! Praise the Lord!
- Highway Occupancy Permit—still being processed by the state.
- Land Development Plan Approval—praying to receive this over the winter months SO THAT...
- Construction—permits will be received with the goal of breaking ground in the SPRING!

- ❖ Construction Phase 1
 - Dining Hall/Chapel Building
 - Cabin Building
 - Associated Camp Rec structures and features
- ❖ Construction Phase 2
 - H*VMI Office Building
 - Three Single Family Residences for H*VMI Full Time Staff

We have come a long way, crossing barriers that only God could carry us over. As we wait, we have seen His guiding Hand all along the way. Meanwhile, PRAISE the Lord that, even on our undeveloped property, He is providing many opportunities to share His Truth with the people we serve.

▲ OPEN HERE ▲



Upcoming Events 2021

Call our office for monthly Bible club and support group information.
 Visit hvmi.org/upcoming-events for details or to RSVP for the following, coming in 2021:
hvmi.org • 717.859.4777

- April 17**
South Jersey Area Ministry Update Luncheon,
The Grove, Pittsgrove Township NJ
- August 7**
Handi*Camp, PIP and Bible Club Picnic, Akron PA
- August 21**
BASIS Picnic, Akron PA
- September 14**
Annual Charity Golf Outing, Quarryville PA
- October 2**
Chicken BBQ and Fall Fun Family Event, Akron PA
- October 29**
Lancaster County Area Ministry Update Luncheon,
Shady Maple, East Earl PA
- November 13**
North Jersey Area Ministry Update Luncheon,
River View Banquet Center, Berkeley Heights NJ



PRAYER

- PRAISE for the opportunity to begin some in-person Bible clubs and support groups again.
- PRAY for those we serve who are still isolated in residential facilities without opportunity for friends or family to visit.
- PRAY for His ongoing guidance and abundant provision so we can continue moving ahead and actually begin building on the property site in the spring.

*Evangelizing • Caring
 Discipling • Training • Equipping*



December 2020

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

P.O. Box 122
 Akron, PA 17501-0122

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Handi*Vangellism Ministries International™

