



Hannah's Newsletter Gift



*For this child I prayed, and the LORD has granted me my petition that I made to Him. Therefore I have lent him to the LORD. As long as he lives, he is lent to the LORD.
1 Samuel 1:27-28*

{ HEBREWS } For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.
12:11



A father prays with his children at the Returning Hearts Celebration at Angola in May.

A LOOK AT *what's coming up*

..... On July 14, Angola will be hosting its second Malachi Dads RHC of the year.

Family
Restoration, the second book from Dr. Kristi Miller, will be out Sept. 1!

.... Hannah's Gift will be hosting their first RHC on September 27th in Decatur, IL.

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A LOOK AT
RETURNING hearts CELEBRATIONS

ALSO IN THE ISSUE...
what's coming up &

an update on Malachi Dads!

RETURNING THE HEARTS OF CHILDREN TO THEIR FATHERS

By Megan Wozniak
Communications Director, Awana Lifeline

Malachi Dads has hosted several Returning Hearts Celebrations this year. The largest RHC was held at Louisiana State Penitentiary, Angola. There, over 850 children spent the day with their incarcerated fathers and grandfathers. The children and close to 400 Malachi Men played, ate, prayed, and read God's Word together.

In order to host the event, 650 volunteers from 28 states, Canada,

and the Dominican Republic descended upon the field serving as family assistants, games coordinators, and food preparers among others. Some volunteers hosted the more than 200 guardians who had traveled near and far to bring their children and grandchildren to Angola. Nine of those ladies accepted Christ at the event!

Angola will be hosting another Returning Hearts this July. Awana Lifeline is also working right now on the *first* RHC for Hannah's Gift! The event will be held in Decatur, Illinois on September 27th. We hope many more will follow!

visit us at <http://awanalifeline.org> or find us on facebook.com

Hannah's Gift serving inmate mothers, encouraging volunteers

By Megan Wozniak

Communications Director,
Awana Lifeline

Earlier this year, several Hannah's Gift volunteers from California, Illinois, and Arizona made the trip to Louisiana to be a part of the special service celebrating the release of the Hannah's Gift curriculum, *The Heart of a Mother*. Most of the volunteers serve during the week as table leaders and organizers for their local Hannah's Gift groups. For them, it was a chance to meet the author of the curriculum as well as some of the *original* Malachi Men who Warden Burl Cain had graciously allowed to participate in the festivities.

Even though these volunteers were already familiar with prison ministry, for some it was a bit intimidating. Kim, who traveled from Los Angeles, explained that although she was hesitant about going with a group of people she didn't know, she realized it was not about her.

"It is about His kingdom work and my obedience to Him. I read His Word for peace and prayed that the Lord would receive all honor, glory, and praise."

She was amazed that while she came with the purpose of encouraging the Hannah's Gift mothers, *she* left encouraged.

Cathy, another volunteer, was also affected by the godliness of the women there. She remembers one particular moment that resonated with her. Mike Broyles, the Executive Director of Awana Lifeline welcomed those visiting to stand if they were struggling in areas with their own children. Cathy stood and said that "the inmates at LCIW encircled us and prayed for us and our children. That connection with the inmates passionately praying to our Father in heaven brought me to sobbing out loud like I have nev-

er done before. *Thank you, Jesus, for these women at LCIW!*"

Brenda, who felt called to the Hannah's Gift ministry because of her deep passion for discipling women, believes that both Angola and LCIW are places where deep fellowship with kindred spirits happens.

"Spiritually," she explains, "it was a mountain top experience. We were exposed *hourly* to the glories of our gracious God who was redeeming souls for His kingdom."

A great work is being done through Hannah's Gift. As these volunteers can attest, it is a changing experience for

both the mothers going through the program and those who are able to walk along side them.

Kim was moved by the testimonies she heard and was reminded that the "Lord is forgiving and gracious and abounding in love for all who call upon Him."

*"Thank
you, Jesus,
for these
women at
LCIW!"*

-Cathy, volunteer

DESSERT HONORS AUTHOR



The Awana Lifeline team held a special dessert in honor of Dr. Kristi Miller, the author of the Hannah's Gift curriculum, in Los Angeles on June 20th. Volunteers and members of the community as well as staff listened to Miller as she spoke about her experience as the chaplain at Louisiana Correctional Institution for Women. Two recently released graduates of both Hannah's Gift and Malachi Dads were also present and shared their testimonies with the attendees.

● ● ● ***The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. - Lamentations 3:22-23*** ● ● ●