

07/16/16 - Sharing Through Suffering

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Hebrews 13:7-19

The New Testament Letter to the Hebrews may have been written by someone imprisoned for the Gospel of Jesus (Hebrews 13:18-19). I imagine a person imprisoned in a foreign country. His wife and children are in his home country while he is sentenced for proclaiming the Gospel. The family prays for their father and husband every day.

Jesus Film team members have been similarly arrested, even killed, for showing the Jesus Film. In the safety of my own land I do not always remember to pray for those who are preaching the Gospel in limited access countries and for their families.

Before asking his readers to pray the writer reminds them to "to do good and to share with others" (Hebrews 13:16). The prisoner cannot supply the basic needs of his family while in prison. We do not know the writer's situation, but today there are those we could and should help. We all may share in the suffering when anyone suffers for sharing the Gospel. This shared sacrifice is pleasing to God. We can give as we have opportunity and we can all pray daily for those in chains for the Gospel.

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