



# A Special Pastor's Letter

Dear Friend of ICC,

I was just thinking about the values of being a part of a strong church like ICC. I reflected on just a few of the real people with real stories.

## **WHAT PRICE DO YOU PUT ON THAT?**

Mary finally experiences her unchurched husband attending a Sunday service at ICC. What her family experiences in the next 3 short months is nothing short of miraculous. Her marriage was on the rocks and the children were being divided over church attendance. The entire family was miserable. Now, you see the smiles of hope and encouragement as Christ is being allowed to heal what was broken. Her husband, Bill, has just discovered that his handling of finances has been a major source of his and Mary's struggle. He's been asking about something called "*Crown Financial Ministry*" on Thursday nights.

### **What price do you put on that?**

Jack had been through years and years of AA meetings and found some strength for his struggles with addiction but he never found a personal connection with his "Higher Power". He was often lonely and afraid of death. A friend told him about a ministry called Celebrate Recovery that was held at ICC on Thursday evenings. Jack attended and was immediately accepted – as was expected with any recovery program. What he discovered that was totally unexpected was a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and a group of people to share life with. He brought several of his friends who are now discovering a personal God in Jesus Christ. With the help of God and friends, he's walking through his fears and finding answers that deeply satisfy his troubled soul.

### **What price do you put on that?**

Gertrude (just kidding ...her name has been changed) is a middle-schooler, worrying over all kinds of teenage issues ...lacking any kind of positive self-esteem. In her own mind she felt like a "loser" and school attendance had become a real nightmare. She started to skip out and isolate herself from everybody ...including her Mom. A girl at school who sometimes wears an ICC *ROCK* tee shirt (ICC's Middle-school logo) noticed her one lunch period and treated her with respect and kindness and encouraged her for months to come to the Wednesday night *ROCK* meetings and hang out. One night she showed up. That was a year ago and now Gertrude is a vital part of the middle-school ministry. Her mother attended Celebrate Recovery this past Thursday.

### **What price do you put on that?**

Rhonda was at the end of her rope with her 3 children ages 3, 5 and 7. One of her single parent friends told her about KIDZONE. She attended one Sunday and now her children love to attend AWANA and KIDZONE. Rhonda found new friends and has been considering helping out with AWANA. She heard someone talking about a parenting class ICC offers and wants to check that out too.

### **What price do you put on that?**

I don't know the answer to the question. Do you?

Just thinking,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "John R. Mitcham". The signature is written in a cursive style.

John R. Mitcham