Dear Ministry Partners;

*Christmas means* that Immanuel has come - that God is with us (Matthew 1:23). *It means* that our sordid, failure-fraught past can be defeated and changed by Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and His victorious resurrection. *It means* that we can be brought into God's family, heirs of God and citizens of Heaven. *Christmas means* that God comes into the night of our suffering and sorrow, saying, "I am with you always" and, "I will give you rest" (Matthew 28:20; 11:28).

This is the most important message of Christmas. The prophets wrote of it, the Psalmists sang of it, the apostles rejoiced and built their hopes on it, and the Epistles are filled with it. Christ's coming in the flesh - His invading the world, His identifying Himself with sinful men and women - is the most significant fact of history.

What an incredible truth! Think of it. The God of the universe came down from Heaven that first Christmas night and took human form! If you want to know what God is like, then take a long look at Jesus Christ because He is God in human flesh. In Him were displayed not only the perfections that had been exhibited in the creation, such as wisdom, power and majesty, but also such perfections as justice, mercy, grace and love. What a wonderful and glorious hope we have because of that first Christmas!

Each day at Grace Mission we share the wonderful and glorious hope we have to those that are struggling, those in sorrow, doubt and pain, to those that have never felt a warm embrace, a kind word, or an act of love. We see so many that have deep wounds, suffered broken promises, angry, bitter, and disappointed. But each day brings a new hope as we are reminded, *"The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost"* (Luke 19:10). I would encourage you to keep in mind all those people around us who are trapped in a cycle of poverty - the poor, the homeless, and those with medical or mental issues. They too, need to be given hope.

Please remember Grace Mission in your prayers and in your generous Christmas giving this hopeful season. Make this Christmas one of "exceedingly great joy" for someone who might be lost and is in desperate need to hear about the wonderful and glorious hope we have in Jesus Christ.

May His light shine in your life this Christmas season!



Please enjoy the handmade Christmas cards from all of us at Grace Mission.

We are having a very difficult financial year and your generous financial support would be greatly appreciated.