# RU RECOVERY 2023 MID-YEAR UPDATE

A word from RU Executive Director

Hello Friends,

At the close of each day, I often ponder the impact of what we are doing and if it genuinely makes a difference in this world. The declining value of truth within our society has a subtle way of obscuring the radiant brilliance of God's infinite goodness. We watch satan sow chaos worldwide and then desperately guard his achievements from any interference. If RU Recovery were not a significant threat to those achievements, his attacks would not be this profound.

I have never experienced such an apparent spiritual battle. However, there is a deep sense of purpose that I know you also feel. Your texts, emails, and calls prove that. They also serve as reminders of why the devil is concerned. Each week, I hear of a life changed, a family reunited, and a soul saved. God is using this program to shout "Victory" every single day. Our GOD will win this battle, and I Thank You for standing firm with RU Recovery as we share HIS truth.

In the attached update, we discuss the continued journey God has allowed for this Ministry. YOU are RU Recovery, and we are thrilled to have you as an ally. We are working to provide you with better service and a simplified experience. The board of directors and I seek God's will in each decision, and we humbly ask for your fervent prayer as we continue.

THANK YOU all, and May God continue to Bless your service!

All for His Glory, Brad Woodbury CEO/Executive Director

Brad Woodbury CEO/Executive Director

# Hello RU Recovery,

We have made numerous attempts to draft this update, but each time we thought we had a clear path, unexpected circumstances led to one delay after the next. Regardless of our frustrations and despite the numerous changes this year has brought, these facts remain.

\*RU Recovery is open and operating every day.

\*Our staff is available and willing to help you in any way.

\*We fulfill an average of 8 to 9 daily orders and shipments.

\*250+ Faithful churches support RU Recovery each month.

\*400+ chapters across three countries use the RU program each week.

\*We remain dedicated to God's Mission for RU Recovery.

Most Importantly

# We remain devoted to RU Recovery & GOD REMAINS FAITHFUL in His provision and Favor of RU Recovery

That out of the way, Let's dive into some details.

In our exhaustive update earlier this year, we communicated our intention to relocate the RU warehouse and central office as our next significant move. Until now, the progress has been delayed.

We will not go into the same level of detail as earlier, but we will give you the cause of our slow pace, address all your inquiries, and provide an up-to-date snapshot of the RU headquarters.

Let us start by addressing the questions on social media and other communication platforms. The questions are highlighted within the document.

### Where is HQ located now?

The RU Headquarters has not moved. YOU will absolutely be notified when this takes place. Nothing has changed yet. All orders, materials, and shipments are managed from the 333 E. State Street Building. Fulfillment has remained the same.

### How many active chapters does RU have?

That answer has always been challenging to report with 100% accuracy since RU does not require chapters to check-in. However, the best way to gauge that number is by purchases. We currently have approximately 400 chapters purchasing materials. We are processing, on average, six to seven orders each day.

#### Is RU Headquarters moving to South Carolina?

Our new location is indeed in South Carolina. And Praise be to God, that has now returned to our top priority. After overcoming obstacles that previously hindered our progress, we can finally move forward with this exciting shift.

While we are reluctant to commit to an exact date, you can expect the move to occur within thirty to sixty days. Rest assured, you will receive an email and a physical letter containing the change of address and additional information needed.

The underlying message we aim to convey is that God controls our timeline. It is now evident that His guidance has kept the Ministry in place for a specific purpose. If we had been hasty in our actions earlier, we would have incurred needless expenses. The relocation cost will be at least 75% less than planned.

#### **South Carolina Savings**

The facility in South Carolina is being donated to RU for one year. As mentioned earlier, monthly operating costs will be over 80% less than what was required in Illinois. This is another brilliant example of God's provision for RU Recovery.

We remain diligent in following His guidance and timing. Although this journey has been stressful, it has reminded us to rely solely on God, strengthening our faith both as a team and individually.

#### **Materials and Curriculum**

The RU Curriculum has undergone a laborious refining process and has now experienced a much-needed revitalization. We assembled a team and established the following objectives: enhance word choice, improve the structure, and ensure readability, all while remaining faithful to the original intent: Share God's truth and disciple those struggling. The original biblical design will always remain, but certain aspects were long overdue for an update. A few months ago, we completed the initial phase of the new curriculum and submitted it for final editing.

#### What has caused the SLOW movement?

Shortly after we started editing the new material and preparing for the Spring re-launch, we encountered a significant challenge that had the potential to impact every aspect of the Ministry, particularly our ability to supply you with materials.

Months ago, RU was served with a legal request demanding that we cease all sales and provision of materials. The ownership of all RU products and our right to sell our materials was being challenged.

We immediately rejected that demand and chose to remain faithful in our service to the Lord and our chapters. This choice required us to be prepared to fight any battle necessary to preserve this program. Since that day, the focus of our leadership team has been on navigating the legal challenges presented. That time consuming process has created delays, prevented the National re-launch, and caused many of your orders to be incomplete due to "back-ordered" products.

This entire matter has been bathed in prayer, and although it is ongoing, the Lord has ONCE AGAIN made provision for RU Recovery to continue moving forward and beyond this barrier.

*"Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses." 1 Timothy 6:12* 

### Warehouse Backorders and Supplies

As mentioned above, many of you are experiencing shipping delays. Although some vendor problems have arisen, the significant delay stems from the issue above. Our bulk orders cost tens of thousands of dollars; it was unwise to spend those funds with this unsettled matter. As a result, our restock orders were put on hold, leading to the current backlog.

Now that we have a green light, we are doing everything possible to expedite the fulfillment of your back-ordered items. We have taken steps to resume bulk shipments, engage additional vendors, and make rush requests and payments. RU Recovery will inevitably encounter a substantial loss due to this delay, but it will eventually be recouped.

### **WEBSITE and Online Presence**

We must elevate our efforts to meet the demands of today's technology. New students and chapters now anticipate a robust online presence and reliable digital resources.

The Renewal of our online reputation takes center stage in the Ministry's growth and operations. Firstly, we are revamping the existing website by removing outdated content and restructuring its layout for improved navigation, guaranteeing easy access to information.

\*This is why some things are missing or changed.

We are cleaning it out to speed it up.

### \*NEW\* RU Awards Certificates

One thing expected to be up and running within the next seven days is our digital Awards Certificates. We are transitioning paper-based certificates and related items away from our web store. These will now be accessible as FREE downloadable files through the Directors Portal.

\*RU staff signatures will be removed, allowing each chapter the discretion to have whomever they choose to sign.

\* We have thousands of certificates in stock and will soon list them for clearance should any chapter be interested.

\*Physical awards such as pins and buttons will remain available as products.

# How many paid positions are at RU

We currently have a staff of six. (Four full-time and two part-time) Each member of this incredible team has chosen to take a reduction in salary until RU recuperates its losses.

# **New Videos**

We have plans to reproduce all of our videos and create an online training course. We hope to obtain the funds needed in 2024. Some of you may be called to assist in this project.

# **RU Recovery Snapshot**

Mitch Gowan referenced an insightful statement emphasizing the significance of individual operation for every RU chapter apart from RU Headquarters. This forms the essence of RU today as we diligently work towards implementing structures that will uphold its legacy for decades to come.

RU Recovery Headquarters is the central hub for the organization, production, and distribution of the RU Recovery program and materials. Each chapter now represents a crucial piece of one Christ-centered program offering redemption and freedom. Our heartfelt prayer is that God's RU program will inspire the creation of new men's and women's homes, new chapters in new communities, and Re-Newed lives around the globe.

YOU are RU Recovery; we are here to serve you.

### **Our Request and Some Important Information**

Our team today consists of six individuals tasked with reorganizing the work of a forty-person team spanning twenty-five years. The scale of this undertaking is immense, and we greatly appreciate your prayers and support. Our goal is to deliver a streamlined and satisfying experience, while offering exceptional service. We are working hard to hit that target; we haven't crossed the finish line.

We kindly ask for your patience as we prepare for our relocation. We hope to make this transition as smooth as possible.

One passage of Scripture we have all clung to is this one from the book of James.

"But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed." –James 1:4-6

We Love and Appreciate you and all you do for RU Recovery and your community.

### **RU Recovery Volunteers, Staff, and Leadership**



\*Please update your contacts with one of the names and departments listed below. Anyone listed below can assist you or direct you to the correct person:

#### **General Questions**

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#### **Chapter Training and New Chapters:**

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