

# NEWSLETTER

## Dear Friends,

January 2010: Vol. 28, No. 01

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!



So, why Vancouver? Dallas can handle the Olympics, the Super Bowl, and the NBA All-Stars!!!

## WARM WISHES FOR COLD DAYS

## GOD WAS TALKING TO ME

"I got your address from a friend. Many years ago I was looking for drugs and got stopped by a Christian. They called him 'Tree.' He told me about God and I went my way. But I never forgot that night. I think God was talking to me through that 'Tree' guy.

"Now I want to know about the God that 'Tree' was talking to me about. I just renounced my membership with Texas Mexican Mafia. I've been in and out of prison all my life. There's a contract hit on my life, but it doesn't matter. I want a relationship with Jesus Christ. I wished I would have listened to 'Tree' at that time." **Richard** 

### **MY LIFE IS FOREVER CHANGED**

"I am leaving prison by the Grace of God. I am to take the Word of Truth as I understand it, and according to the Grace God gives me, to divide it and share it. God bless you for helping me along the path of understanding. My eyes have been opened to witness some of God's glory in Christ. My life is forever changed and continually blessed. No matter what God allows in my life, I have security and hope in Christ Jesus. My joy is overwhelming and growing. God bless your ministry." Lawrence



Is that a "recall" hiding under there?

## MEMORIALS

A gift has been received in memory of Judy Turley, wife of Lee Turley in Virden, IL, brother of Rodger Turley at the Garland office. Thank you, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Turley, parents of Lee and Rodger, living in Sarasota, FL. You are helping extend the Good News to inmates.

## FELT I NEEDED TO SAY THANK YOU

"God bless you, Mr. Nichols, and everyone at Write-Way Prison Ministries for all you do for Him and His people. You just sent me a letter and a certificate; thank you for both. You asked if I was enjoying the studies. Yes, I am, but sometimes it gets very hard because of where I'm at. I've been in prison for three years and most every cellmate I've had didn't believe in God. I've learned a lot about God because of you, and I believe I've been helped because of you. You are doing a very good thing." **Michael** 

## TRYING TO BRING MY WIFE TO CHRIST

"God bless you guys for your studies. I am learning so much and am so grateful that there are people who care about inmates. I pray for everyone who donates postage, grades papers, and anyone involved.

"I do have a prayer request; I'm trying to bring my wife to Christ. She committed adultery one time while I have been incarcerated. She broke down and begged for forgiveness. I told her God loves her very much and I embraced her in my arms. She has seen God's love through me. I'm trying to slowly win her to Christ by setting a good example. She has seen my love and willingness to forgive.

"Pray that I can continue to lead by example. I teach her about God's grace and mercy and how salvation is a gift; it's not earned. Please pray for us." **James** 

#### **MY FIRST EVER BIBLE COURSE**

"I'm enclosing this letter with my first WPM study course. I don't know how it found me, but praise God, it was in His life plan for me to receive it. I'm 43 years old and been in prison for four years due to a drug charge. All my life I've had a problem with drugs and alcohol, and I've spent over 18 years in and out of prison.

"Eight months ago I completed my first ever Bible course. I pray now everyday and have accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Savior. I will change, I want change, and I need change. I'm very educated and have a will to learn more! I have two years left on this sentence of four. The first two years were filled with misery and hate. I pray for spiritual healing. And now this blessing of Write-Way." **Daryl** 

## **REPORT FOR JANUARY 2010**

Institutions Served		351
Enrolled Students	8,612	
Suspended*	1,327	
Active Students		7,285
New Enrollees		964
<b>Professions of Faith</b>		32
Course Booklets Maile	d	8,768
Course Exams Comple	ted	5,551

\*Students returning no exams for more than 90 days.

#### **Student Achievements Reached This Month:**

36	<b>Course Units Completed:</b>	18 Students
<b>48</b>	<b>Course Units Completed:</b>	<b>19 Students</b>

#### **Operational Finances Summary:**

January Expense	s:	\$	16,363.27
Postage:	\$ 11,380.02		
Courses:	1,755.20		
January Donation	ns:		18,512.81
Surplus:		5	5 2,149.54

#### **Contact information:**

P.O. Box 461582, Garland, TX. 75046-1582 Phone (972) 840-9798, Fax (972) 864-9692 Email: writewaypm@verizon.net

Visit us & Donations online: www.writewaypm.org

Send us your email address to receive donor receipts.

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Our annual certified CPA audit is available upon request. WPM Statement of Faith is available upon request.

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# NEWSLETTER

## **Dear Friends**,

## THE HEART OF VOLUNTEERS

A March 2010 article from AARP reported that a record number of "Boomers" and older Americans volunteered on their own, independently of formal organizations, increasing from 34% in 2003 to 57% in 2009. In addition, "the nature of civic engagement is changing, becoming more personal and more secular... less likely to join organizations." The chief motivation given by 68% of the respondents is "feeling a personal responsibility to help others when they need it." However, though volunteers in 2003 reported working an average of 15 hours per month, in 2009 volunteers report spending an average of six to ten hours of service per month.

Write-Way Prison Ministries has been honored to have the "cream of the crop" volunteers on board. Not only do they serve diligently, but for long periods of time. There are at least a dozen active members who have been with WPM for more than 15 years, not to mention Mr. Nichols who is in his 28<sup>th</sup> year of leading this school!

For 2009 WPM is estimated to have operated on the shoulders of more than 400 volunteers who worked 85,020 hours in various schedules and locations. That's a \$616,395.00 labor value (at minimum wage)! Surely Paul's prayer in Colossians 1:10 is answered: "being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God."



Assembling the newsletter to 1,275 friends.

## February 2010: Vol. 28, No. 02

## THE FRUIT OF VOLUNTEERS



Preparation for mailing 1,962 courses per week

## WHAT I'VE BEEN MISSING

"You all have really and truly been a blessing in my life. My Bible lessons have helped me to realize what I've really been missing as far as my relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you all for your prayers and for this correspondence school. I wish that everyone could receive the type of blessings that I have." *Rodney* 

## I CAN'T BE ANY HAPPIER

"I am writing to inform you that I really appreciate the material you have sent me. It has brought me closer to Jesus Christ, the Son of God. I believe in Him and He is with me in my heart. He has already started blessing with His power. I can't be any happier than what the good Lord is doing for me. God bless." *Trinidad* 

## WE SEEK HIS WILL FOR OUR FAMILY

"Please enroll my wife in your wonderful Bible studies. We are trying to stay on the same level spiritually and she is very excited about getting started with me. We hope and pray that these studies will get us to the place where our Father God needs for us to better serve Him. We have fully committed our family to Him and we seek His will for our family daily. Thank you for helping us get there." *Trinity* 

## A MASTER STUDENT OF THE BIBLE

"I am proud of my 30 units of study and have learned so much about the Bible and the Truth of Divine matters. I am now a Master Student of the Bible. You have given me so much joy and happiness in my life and have given me the tools to help others to learn and become a Master Bible Student as well.

I love my duty as a Christian to help them to know Christ as I myself do. It gives me great joy to bring many new students to Write-Way. Thank you for all of your love and service to Christ Jesus and Jehovah God. Like all of us here at this unit, I see a major change for the better in all students of Write-Way and their conduct towards others. You have blessed us forever, and we are greatly blessed by your grace more than words can say." *Darren* 

## I SURRENDER MORE AND MORE

"I need to continue working on my pride. As a young man I was extremely filled with pride and always wanted to be where the action was. It took coming to prison and getting sober for my pride and arrogance to crumble. But through reading the Bible, praying every day, and these Bible studies, I know Christ's Spirit is guiding me as I surrender more and more to Him. My goal is to become a man powerful in the Word, but humble and broken in spirit who stands for righteousness." *Royse* 

## A PLACE IN MY HEART

"I want to first start by saying 'Thank you' for the courses. I'm not knowledgeable about the Bible and wish to learn as much as possible. I will not forget you guys. You will have a place in my heart when I am released." *Marco* 



Recording grades for 1,248 students a week.

## **REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2010**

Institutions Served		338
Enrolled Students	8,218	
Suspended*	1,090	
Active Student	ts	7,128
New Enrollees		921
<b>Professions of Faith</b>		51
Course Booklets Mai	led	7,848
Course Exams Compl	leted	4,995

\*Students returning no exams for more than 90 days.

## **Student Achievements Reached This Month:**

36	<b>Course Units Completed:</b>	33 Students
48	<b>Course Units Completed:</b>	10 Students

## **Operational Finances Summary:**

February Donations:	\$ 21,835.41
February Expenses:	20,550.37
Postage: \$ 8,099.82	
Courses: 8,161.59	
Surplus:	\$ 1,285.04

## **Contact information:**

P.O. Box 461582, Garland, TX. 75046-1582 Phone (972) 840-9798, Fax (972) 864-9692 Email: <u>writewaypm@verizon.net</u>

Visit us & Donations online: www.writewaypm.org

## Send us your email address to receive donor receipts and this monthly newsletter.

Government employees in Texas may make designated work place payroll deductions through Local Independent Charities of Texas (LIC) at <u>www.lic.org</u>

Our annual certified CPA audit is available upon request. WPM Statement of Faith is available upon request.

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# NEWSLETTER

## **Dear Friends**,

## March 2010: Vol. 28, No. 03

## THE GRADUATES



In this issue we present our first quarter 2010 graduates, those who have attained 52 units of study. Increasingly we are finding that more of our students are staying longer with us and then completing our curriculum. In addition, you will find those who have finished various stages of the curriculum, including those who previously graduated and have gone on to complete more courses with our home office in Dubuque, Iowa, Emmaus Correspondence School.

## <u> VOICES OF CHANGE</u>

## MAKES ME STUDY MY BIBLE

"Thank you for this lesson. Each one of these courses really makes me study my Bible. Thank you for providing these courses and much thanks to your volunteers." John



## FOUND A NEW PASSION

"I want to thank your ministry very much for your Bible studies! I have enjoyed them very much and I am thankful that I've been able to learn so much from them. They have really helped me so much in my new walk with God. I know that change is not going to come overnight and I don't expect it to, because it would seem fake to me. But I've found a new passion!

"I want to know if I still will be able to get your studies at home? Also I would want your information because I want to donate some money to your ministry so that you can continue to help others. God bless everyone who works for your ministry." *Vielka* 

(ED: Students can continue studies upon release)



## THE BEST LESSONS AND COURSES

"I am wanting to know if there is any way I can do more studies through Write-Way, or if you know of any colleges or Bible Schools that are looking for more new students? I also want to help others become Write-Way students, to be saved, and to be the best person they can become. I know they will be blessed by the Angels of Write-Way!

"One thing I make a habit of doing is to help others be on the right path to reach eternal Life. I have such good things to say about Write-Way. As a student, I get the best lessons and courses from you than from others!" Darren

## I AM NOW BELIEVING

"These studies are awesome and I am beginning to understand the Word. I have been lost for years and used a million and one excuses, but now I am opening my eyes to what's real. Thanks to your study course, I am now believing and realizing the Truth! Thank you and I await my next course." Anthony

## KIND WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

"I would like to extend my gratitude to your Bible study program for allowing me to further my knowledge of the Bible, and to your graders for the kind words of encouragement and inspiration to continue moving ahead in the Word, strengthening my faith, and adding enjoyment to my life, despite my troubled times. May I continue my studies from home? Here is my free world address."

Robert

### I WON'T STOP... I CAN'T STOP

I won't stop,,, I can't stop, praising your holy Name; There's nothing else that I want to do, but stay in Your game I've been on the other side, and almost to hell; I won't stop... I can't stop; I have to tell, Those who are struggling, trying to get a grip; Those who have fallen. and received a busted lip. There's a better way, that you may know nothing about; I won't stop... I can't stop; I began to yell and shout! There's a better way, Come on and take it; It's going to be alright; I know you can make it. The first step That's going to change the rest of your life; Don't be afraid, don't hesitate, Don't even think twice. You may not see it Right in front of your face; That's why they call it... "taking a leap of faith." I won't stop... I can't stop, Until you see, What someone else Took the time out to show me. V.R.

#### THIS IS AN AWESOME TRANSFORMATION!

"I am currently incarcerated, serving a nine month sentence for a revocation on a drug charge. My release date is August. I am committed to living a new way of life with God and it is wonderful! I am interested in receiving your Bible studies.

"I was active in Bible studies, 12 step meetings, and three different clergy visits each week while still in the county jail. I attend any and all things offered by the Chaplain. All of my spare time is spent reading, studying, and absorbing my Bible. This is an awesome transformation! I am finding a new way to live through Jesus Christ. I have never been happier, full of faith, or optimistic in all my 40 years. I am on the way to loving myself. Walking hand in hand with God on a daily basis is making all the difference in the world! I am doing my time without the acceptance or support of my family and friends. It can get a little lonely and kind of scary. Then I remember I am not alone and I am safe in God's hands. He will always be with me. He will always love me!" *Glenda* 

## Visit us or donate online: www.writewaypm.org

Send us your email address to receive donor receipts and this monthly newsletter.

## <u>REPORT FOR MARCH</u>

Institutions Served	338
Enrolled Students 8,194	
Suspended* 925	
Active Students	7,269
New Enrollees	1,212
<b>Professions of Faith</b>	38
Course Booklets Mailed	9,776
Course Exams Completed	6,134

\*Students returning no exams for more than 90 days.

#### **Student Achievements Reached This Month:**

36	<b>Course Units Completed:</b>	23 Students
<b>48</b>	<b>Course Units Completed:</b>	13 Students

#### **Operational Finances Summary:**

March Donations:	\$ 15,571.78
March Expenses:	20,336.14
Postage: \$ 8,963.1	11
Courses: 5,083.3	
From Reserve for Deficit:	\$ -4,764.36

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# NEWSLETTER

## Dear Friends,



#### CELEBRATING

Ralph M. Nichols

Age 92 on May 30, 2010

28 years Texas Penal Coordinator

28 years President of Write-Way Prison Ministries, Inc.



<<<<<<<>**HELPS ME HELP OTHERS** "This is great (BASIC BIBLE DOCTRINES)! This helps a lot. It helps me to help others that need to know. Some that I try to help are prideful, so I use books like this one. You all have been a great blessing to me and my family. This Christian life is all new to me and my family. But I know it's the right thing to do. And seeing me move in that direction has grabbed my family's attention!"

<u>Celestino</u>

#### COMMENTS ARE EXTREMELY HELPFUL>>>>>

"These lessons are very good and helpful to further my understanding of the Bible and to help in my Christian walk. The counselor's comments are extremely helpful and I appreciate them taking the time to answer and give their comments. Thank you for your concerns."

**Thomas** 

## <<<<<<THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME

"I don't know who gets this correspondence, but I would like to thank you for taking the time to grade these and to send me more lessons. These lessons came right when I was starting to get depressed about being in this 'box.' (Administrative segregation). You are truly a blessing to me." Chris

## April 2010: Vol. 28, No. 04

**I'M STILL LEARNING** "Thank you for the birthday card. I know it's just a card but it means a lot. I'm 44 now, but when I was growing up, I don't remember any birthday cards. But you have been sending me cards for three years now and you don't even know me. But we will one day in heaven! You do bless me more than you know with the Bible studies. It has helped me get to know God and Jesus better, and myself, and what I'm supposed to do as a Christian. I'm still learning and it's not easy a lot of the time. But we have to keep getting up and running the race for God and people." Michael

"I was introduced to Write-Way back in 2005. I just wanted to pause and thank you guys for being so faithful! I love you. You have been right there with me every step of the way, just like Jesus is. I am so grateful for your ministry. I praise God and thank our glorious Master every single day for you and others out there like you who come into our prisons and help inmates cope with their circumstances. You have no idea how much we appreciate your love, correspondence, Bible studies, and prayers. God bless you!" <u>Poppa Bill</u>

<<<<<SOMEONE ENROLLED ME AS A JOKE

"Your note says that, 'Several months ago you enrolled...' and my answer is 'No.' I did not enroll myself. Someone on the unit must have gotten my name and ID number and enrolled me as a joke and did it without my knowledge and approval. It did upset me at the time, but I did get over it. At the time I was involved with another prison ministry. But afterwards, when I had opened the booklet and took a quick scan through it, it caught my attention and I liked what I read. Then I decided to go on with it. And so here I am today doing and enjoying them!" <u>Rudy</u>

"I'm enjoying getting good teaching of God's Word. I also went back over my wrong answers and studied them all over. It really encouraged me more to follow through with my studies because I see with good teaching comes good advice and guidance. Thank you for not only the courses, but the guidance of keeping me full of faith and staying in the Word." <u>Mel</u>

*HOW I TRUSTED CHRIST*: "The second time I went to prison I was literally insane for two years. I was mad at God, the judge, the prosecutor, my lawyers, and myself for not knowing how I came to let myself be put in a position to where I was given a 35 year sentence. I felt it was unjustified so I was a raving mad lunatic, cussing and fighting for those two years.

"One day, Sunday, I was going to recreation, passing the gym where services were held. I heard what sounded like a choir in heaven singing. I passed on by but somehow found myself back at the door, looking in and listening to the heavenly sound. Suddenly I realized where I was standing and said, 'No! I ain't going in!' This happened three times and the third time the Spirit compelled me to go in. I made the altar call that day begging God to for-give me with tears pouring from my eyes. I was born again that day in January, 1995."

SINCE I HAVE TRUSTED CHRIST: "By God's grace I have weathered many trials and temptations, going through the 'tempering fire' so to speak. I know today that Satan is real. I know today that God Almighty is real and all-powerful, merciful, and righteous in all that He does. I do not hate anyone anymore, but I do hate the sin which defiles us. I now have compassion for all mankind, lifting them up in prayer for God's mercy. Even though I am back in prison as a mandatory supervision violator, God has used me to touch a number of men and state and county employees. I believe it is God's Spirit bearing witness with mine that I am His child." Billy

"I want to thank you in advance for your time and effort. I used to take your Bible study course back in 2002 and I stopped because I wanted to stop believing in God. I thought it would be easier to do my time. But truth is, it's not. I can't stop believing in God and I need His help. Can you please re-enroll me or start me off where I left off. You ain't got to worry about me ever quitting again! Agustin

<<<<<<<<<<<<<>CONTRACTOR NUMBER AND ADDRESS AND ADDRESS ADDRES ADDRESS ADDRESS

"I'm so thankful to God first of all for putting in my spirit to rededicate my life, will, and ways back to Him. Guys here have been drawn to Him by seeing me do this study faithfully. I've learned so much! And I'm also grateful for those of you who have been patient with me on this journey in study. God bless you all and may He keep each of you filled with blessed days for what you're doing in people's lives. Like me! Please keep it coming."

Kenneth

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## <<<<<u>REPORT FOR APRIL>>>></u>

Institutions Served	341
Enrolled Students 8,119	
Suspended* <u>981</u>	
Active Students	7,138
New Enrollees	872
<b>Professions of Faith</b>	41
Course Booklets Mailed	8,405
Course Exams Completed	5,640

\*Students returning no exams for more than 90 days.

#### **Student Achievements Reached This Month:**

36	<b>Course Units Completed:</b>	22 Students
48	<b>Course Units Completed:</b>	17 Students

#### **Operational Finances Summary:**

April Donations:		\$ 10,176.52
April Expenses:		14,720.30
Postage:	\$ 8,308.82	
Courses:	4,127.02	
Admin/Misc	2,284.46	
Deficit:		\$ -4,543.78

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# <u>N E W S L E T T E R</u>

## Dear Friends,

As this issue goes into the mail, the ECS Prison Conference on June 2-5 is history. But I wanted to share with you several prominent themes. First, an ex-felon is usually present at the conferences giving us a first-hand testimony as to the benefits of these correspondence courses. Joseph Cabral from California tenderly and firmly testified of his pilgrimage and commitment to Christ and we all were delighted to embrace him as a brother in Christ.

Secondly, ECS reported that the number of Hispanic courses distributed has increased by 36% over the last ten years. Unfortunately, as the Hispanic population rises, so does the Hispanic prison population. We badly need a Spanish coordinator to help us with translation and communication to our Spanish volunteers.

The highlight of the conference was the two sessions by Lenny Spitale (that's three Italian syllables), author of *Prison Ministry: Understanding Prison Culture Inside And Out.* You can buy the book on <u>www.amazon.com</u> at discount and read reviews. You need to read it! As an exoffender and now prison minister, Lenny exuded enthusiasm for his subject with the sparkle of his Italian background. His first point was the deficiency of fathers in inmates' lives. Absence, abuse, neglect. Then he helped us understand that prison has a culture all its own and that successful ministry needs to familiarize itself with this special culture.



### The 2010 ECS Prison Conference convened at Emmaus Bible College in Dubuque, Iowa

## May 2010: Vol. 28, No. 05

In closing, Lenny led us through several changes taking place in and out of the prison culture that might affect our outreach in the future.

- Supermax prisons with restrictions on access.
- Budget cuts, particularly in Human Services.
- Less chaplains; in CA the ratio recommended is 1 to 500. Actual is 1 to 4,000.
- Religious pluralism more attention being given to rights of other religions and cults.
- The increase of gang activity (something to be loyal to).
- Female juveniles are on the increase.
- The appearance of "Hospice" units due to aging "lifers."
- The rise in infectious diseases (hepatitis C and HIV).
- Political correctness (Canadian PC's cannot distribute DTWJ due to references to homosexuals).

In spite of these potential obstacles, Lenny encouraged us to be intentional about "passing the baton" of salvation to the incarcerated. The obstacles listed above may reduce the number of volunteers who can go into the prisons. But since we specialize in correspondence courses, <u>the mail</u> <u>can go where we may not be able to go!</u> Lenny affirmed that our greatest work is yet to come. His final word:

• The church that receives a former inmate has a treasure, a spiritual "fire in their lap!"

We have a great work and the Lord is obviously at work. Let us know today of your desire to join us!

Rodger Turley, VP, WPM Board

## YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE!!

Thank you for putting us on your Kroger Plus card when shopping. We have gone from \$108 the first year to over \$780 in Kroger donations in 2009. That's more than 218 students served with a course sent and an exam returned.

It is time to sign up for this year's Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor donor program, running from 7/1/2010 to 4/30/2011. Simply take the enclosed letter on your next shopping trip to Kroger and allow the cashier to scan our barcode.

## FROM BEHIND THE WALL

## I WANT TO FIND GOD

"I am wanting to enroll in your studies of the Bible. I believe in straightening up my life and this is the first step in doing so. I read the Bible, but a better understanding would help me learn. When I was younger I was studying the Book and I lost the way. Now I want to find God and His wisdom. I also have a friend in here with me who would like to join." Emilio

### ANOTHER EXCELLENT BIBLE STUDY

"Thanks again for another excellent Bible study course. I really enjoyed the study on Ephesians, especially 4:8-21. The verse by verse commentary was very helpful. I don't know when I'm leaving county jail, but you guys will be the first to know!" Charles

### I AM 19 YEARS OLD

"I have been in your program for a little over a month and have very much enjoyed the lessons. They help me get through the days of my incarceration. I very much appreciate what you have done for me and other inmates. It's a blessing to be able to learn more and more about our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

"I am 19 years old and have been in and out of facilities from the time I was eight, when my mom told me she didn't want me anymore and put me in foster care. I started acting out and was placed in many boy's homes and juvenile centers. But this is the first bit of real trouble I've ever been in. And I'm taking it as a blessing in disguise, because on the 'outside' I don't think I would have ever found the Lord like I have in the four months that I've been incarcerated I was too far along in drugs and alcohol, but He took me out of that and showed me the way to salvation.

"Also I have a list of inmates from RCJ who would like to enroll in these lessons." Michael

### LET ME KNOW YOU CARED

"First of all, thank you for helping inmates to have the privilege to do Bible studies. I'm so sorry I fell behind. Due to moving around, a lot has changed since I've gotten my Bible studies. We have been on lockdown twice plus once for medical reasons. I work in the kitchen then go to trade school for six hours. It's no reason to be behind. Your questionnaire shocked me to let me know you cared instead of falling off like I did. I'm trying to change my ways to be a better person. I have two boys and a beautiful wife to go home to." Angel

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Send us your email address to receive donor receipts and this monthly newsletter electronically.

## **REPORT FOR MAY**

Institutions Served	345
Enrolled Students 7,959	
Suspended* <u>940</u>	
Active Students	7,019
New Enrollees	716
<b>Professions of Faith</b>	47
Course Booklets Mailed	7,555
Course Exams Completed	5,138

\*Students returning no exams for more than 90 days.

#### **Student Achievements Reached This Month:**

36	<b>Course Units</b>	Completed:	33 Students
----	---------------------	------------	-------------

48 Course Units Completed: 42 Student
---------------------------------------

#### **Operational Finances Summary:**

May Donations:		\$ 19,700.78
May Expenses:		26,073.33
Postage:	\$ 10,247.27	
Courses:	9,061.35	
Operating/Ad	min: 6,764.71	
Deficit:	:	\$ -6,372.55

#### **Contact information:**

P.O. Box 461582, Garland, TX. 75046-1582 Phone (972) 840-9798, Fax (972) 864-9692 Email: <u>writewaypm@verizon.net</u>

Government employees in Texas may make designated work place payroll deductions through Local Independent Charities of Texas (LIC) at <u>www.lic.org</u>

Our annual certified CPA audit is available upon request. WPM Statement of Faith is available upon request.

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**Board of Trustees**: Ralph M. Nichols, President; Rodger Turley, VP; Wes Jones, Treasurer; Joyce Jones, Secretary; John D. Coffey; Chap. Alfred A. Gibbons; Don Johnson; Dave Verinder



## **Customer Letter**



## **Step One:**

Read through this letter to understand the advantage of being a part of the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program.

### **Step Two:**

Take the letter with you to your neighborhood Kroger store the next time you go shopping.

## **Step Three:**

Present the letter with your organization's barcode to your cashier upon checkout. After they have scanned your Kroger*Plus* Card you will be enrolled for the current year of the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program. Every time you shop at Kroger and use your enrolled Kroger*Plus* Card, Kroger will contribute a percentage of your eligible purchases to the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation fund. Once a card is scanned with the barcode, it will be active for the remainder of the program year.

## <u>Q & A</u>

How many Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor accounts can an organization have? One per organization.

Can a household "link" their Kroger*Plus* Card to more than one organization at a time? No, the system allows for one organization per household. To change organizations, you must present your Kroger*Plus* Card and the new organization's barcode to the cashier.

## Do I have to enroll each program year?

Yes, all organization's and participants must re-enroll for each program year. <u>Enrollment</u> is June 1, 2010 through Dec 31, 2010 The Neighbor to Neighbor Program <u>accumulation</u> is **July 1**, **2010 through April 30, 2011.** 

## How much can my organization earn?

The Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program will donate \$1 million annually. Each organization will earn a percentage of the \$1 million equal to the percentage of total earned contributions attributable to that organization.

## Kroger Cashier: 1. Scan customer's KrogerPlus Card 2. Scan the attached Organization's barcode.

The customer's Kroger *Plus* Card is now enrolled in the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program & contributing funds to their organization. When you scan the barcode, the description on the receipt will say "Loyalty Div 0.00". This means the barcode was properly scanned. The <u>following Friday</u>, the customer's receipt will display a message at the bottom of the receipt saying "Your card is contributing to Neighbor to Neighbor #12345"





Please feel free to contact a Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program Representative with any additional questions at 866-995-7643 or email to neighbortoneighbor@kroger.com. Additional information is also available at www.krogerneighbortoneighbor.com.



# <u>N E W S L E T T E R</u>

## **Dear Friends**,

## A MEMORIAL

Away from the body... at home with the Lord II Corinthians 5:8 NIV



## **RALPH MARION NICHOLS**

May 30, 1918 - July 5, 2010 Des Moines, Iowa – Mesquite, Texas

For 28 years Ralph Nichols led Write-Way Prison Ministries from a kitchen table in his home to a spacious headquarters building sitting on an acre of land in Garland, Texas. He started with a handful of inmate exams. He lived to see the correspondence school grow to minister to more than 9,700 students per month housed in Texas and Louisiana Federal and State prisons and County and Parish jails. He was resourceful and intense in his endeavor to serve the "least of these."

He knew the task of reaching over 300,000 Texas and Louisiana prisoners with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and discipling them was daunting. He tackled this challenge

## June 2010: Vol. 28, No. 06

with his wife, Dorothy M. Nichols, by developing "Branches." Volunteers from local churches form a support group to grade and counsel each exam in order to provide the student with personal and positive feedback. Write-Way began with an all volunteer staff and non-profit status in 1982. It continues to this day, now with volunteers numbering over 400. Ralph performed his duties as President of the WPM Board and Director of the school to his last moment. He celebrated his 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday on May 30, 2010.

"...after he had served his own generation by the will of God, [he] fell asleep..." Acts 13:36 NKJV



At the WPM 2007 Banquet with daughter, Helen May Nichols, and Emmaus Correspondence School U.S. Prison Director, Al Stoltz

## MEMORIAL BULLETIN

Further information is available on the WPM web site where there is a link to the Memorial program bulletin which lists the order of service as well as the words to a favorite song of Ralph's. You will also appreciate the essay, "Going Home" (from *Interest* magazine, author unknown). <u>www.writewaypm.org</u>

You may also access the web site of the New Hope Funeral Home for the obituary and a link to leave a personal message for the family. <u>www.newhopefh.org</u>

## A TESTIMONY

On April 25. 2010 Ralph Nichols met with a group of interested volunteers from Believers Chapel here in Dallas. It would be the final grading/counseling Branch in which he would oversee its formation. This would be Branch #78, and would bring to 31 the number of active Branches.

Mike Amis, an elder at Believers Chapel, encountered the Write-Way courses while teaching at the Moore prison unit in Bonham, Texas. While there he met and taught an inmate who was a WPM student. That inmate has now been paroled, lives in Dallas and has a full time job. Recently he applied to be a grader counselor. To quote Mr. Amis:

"Terry was recently released from the prison unit located at Nacogdoches. Prior to that, he had been at Choice Moore Unit, Bonham, where he actively participated in the Experiencing God class Rick Kingsley and I lead.

Terry attended our class weekly for about two years, and I learned that he was a sincere student of the Bible, often indicating a mature knowledge of God's Word and doctrinal truth in alignment with the Write-Way Statement of Faith. Terry informs me he has completed all of the Write-Way courses... I believe that Terry's role as a grader/counselor would benefit both him and the students involved."

Mr. Nichols was proud to hear one of his students graduated the courses, got out of prison, and then wanted to join WPM. Terry officially became a WPM counselor exactly one day before Mr. Nichols went home to rest in His Savior's arms.

## MEMORIALS

In the July Newsletter we will present Memorials we receive. Each donor will be sent a personal letter of thanks with a copy sent to the Nichols family. Thank you for your thoughtfulness in honoring Ralph M. Nichols.

# It is time to sign up for this year's Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor

donor program, running from 07/01/2010 to 04/30/2010. Simply go to our web site and find the Kroger link. Print out the form with the WPM bar code and take it on your next shopping trip to Kroger and allow the cashier to scan the barcode. Thank you.

## <u>Visit us or donate online:</u> www.writewaypm.org

Send us your email address to receive donor receipts and this monthly newsletter electronically.

## **REPORT FOR JUNE**

Institutions Served	354
Enrolled Students	7,813
New Enrollees	872
<b>Professions of Faith</b>	51
Course Booklets Mailed	8,220
Course Exams Completed	5,371

#### **Student Achievements Reached This Month:**

36	<b>Course Units Completed:</b>	30 Students
<b>48</b>	<b>Course Units Completed:</b>	13 Students

### **Operational Finances Summary:**

June Donations:		9	5 12,555.20
June Expenses:			14,967.14
Postage:	\$ 8,092.84		
Courses:	2,528.02		
Admin/Misc	4,346.28	3	
Deficit:		\$	-2,411.94

#### **Contact information:**

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Upon successful completion of 36 and 48 units, beautiful (8 1/2 x 12") certificates are issued by the Emmaus Correspondence School. WPM does not offer courses beyond 53 units, but at its discretion, Emmaus Correspondence School may allow the student to continue up to 108 units. This plan gives the student incentive to keep on with the studies. Our graduates stand as a tribute to the more than 400 counselors who give of their time and talents to encourage students and to edify them in Christ. They are also a tribute to those who spend long hours without pay: some ministering in a business way, some donating needed goods, some giving financially, and some upholding WPM in prayer. We praise God for this highwater mark in an inmate's rehabilitation.

#### April through June 2010

\*\* Units earned with Distinction (Grade average > 95.0)

\* Units earned with Honor (Grade average > 90.0)

(Sp) Spanish Curriculum

#### Students below have earned 36 Unit Certificates

Albright, Garry S \* Baca, Sammy T ' Beaty, David E \* Blackwell, Jeremy N \* Bocanegra, John Burns, Anthony J \* Carter, Herman Casev. Tonv W \* Caulder, Deborah S \*\* Chavez, Joe H Chehade, Mefreh A Coleman. Tim E Corley, Jimmy D Coulson, Charles P \* Degler, Tiffany E DeLeon, Franklin \* Douglass, Paul A \*\* Drosopoulos, Chris \* Duncan, Alvin O Dunn, Clifford E Elmore, Andre L \* Epp, Michael D \* Ereman, Jon M \* Escamilla, Milton Evans, Patrick \* Faura, Rafael J \*\* Fields. Darrell L Funez, Hector A \*(Sp) Garland, Robert E Garza, Mauricio P \* Glover, Charles E Glover, Kenneth W \*\* Gonsalves, Stanley A Gonzales-Olivas, Efren (Sp) Granville, Robert K Grice, Walter P Hall, Richard A \*\* Hardison, John G Harris, Lvnn M Hill, Derek W \* Hinson, Everett C \*\* Hooper, William D Hull. Donald W Ivery, Mishelle L Jackson, Phillip G \* Jefferson, Marcus L Kalek, James E \* Kile, Kenny E \* Kirven, Alando

Lopez, Antelmo V \*(Sp) Lopez, Efrain Lopez, George Maggard, Robert R \* Martinez, Domingo \* McCurry, Tracy A McGee, Michael E McKinney, Dalton R Medina, Luis Montez, Vincente Moore, John L 3 Munoz, Arnoldo R (Sp) Nickleberry, Arnold Nogues-Saavedra, Juan (Sp) Perez, Benito \* Perry, Curtis Pheiffer, Frederick W \*\* Pruitt, Jessie E Resler, Albert L Richardson, Jimmy G \* Riley, Cordelia M Sims, Michael L Smallwood, Herbert L Smith, Hoyt E Stanley, Charlie R \* Taylor, James E Thomas, James Thompson, Donald R \* Torres, Carmelo M (Sp) Tucker, John C \*\* Tysz, Richard S Wills, Douglas W \* Wingate, Justin E Yeager, Danny L \*

Larey, David T \*\*

#### Students below have completed the WPM curriculum

Albright, Sandra R \*\* Ashford, Stephen B \* Bailey, Frank L Barideaux, Melvin H \* Bergara, Brandy Betz, George H Bidwell, Michael S Blanton, Mark D \* Carpenter, Bryan A \* Casarez, Celestino Chapman, William R \* Charles, Paul R Dale, Jolene O \* David, Jimmy Dossett, Mike E \* Fleming, Roger \* Garrison, Douglas N \* Gonzales, Fernando Gonzalez, Jesus Gribbin, Shane E \* Hargis, William T \* Hartgrove, John \*\*

Hearn, John L \*\* Hebron, Johnny W Johnson, Nathaniel Lamm, David W ' Mills, Russell L \* Moreno, Antonio Morgan, Curtis L O'Cain, Nathaniel \* Orr, Harvey C Perez, Alejandro Pina, Tommy Pritt. Angel D Ramirez, Filimon R Redwine, Vernon J Reynolds, Gregory M Sanchez, Jose L Sandoval, Hector R Scott, Michael D \* Shugart, James P \* Simanikas, William C Snyder, James A \* Tolle, Michelle A \* Usher, William J Wade, David L \*\* Williams, Willie R Zuniga, Fernando F

#### The following students have gone on to earn additional Units through ECS:

#### Students below have earned 60 Unit Certificates

Alameda, Efrain J \*\* Archie, Touni L \* Bachelder, Edward \* Barfield, Arnold B \* Berry, Tyrone \* Breeland, Richard W Bruner, Leland E \* Brysch, Claude \*\* Colbert, James S \*\* Demouchet, Leroy J \* Elkins, Fred L Fernandez, David J \* Franklin, Michael C Gaskin, Alan K Hadnot, David Hallmark, Brenda G \* Harrison, Charles E Hernandez, Mario X \* Hutton, David L \* Ingram, Diana L Jackson, Raymond F \* Jernigan, Ricardo \*\* Johnson, Moses Kenebrew, Don L \* Kidd, Tommie F \* Kieley, Richard \* Kulwicki, Russell J \*\*

Lopez, Henry \*\* Love, Marty D \* Mahone, Clifford G \* Mindermann, Cynthia C \* Morgan, Roy E Norman, Leland H \* Palomarez, Rudy \* Pense, Wayne L \*\* Petty, James K Pina, Tommy Ramirez, Homero A Reedy, Robert J Riley, Andre ' Roberts, James T \* Roddam, Megan 3 Rubio, James \* Rush, Michael R \* Serna, Joseph P Shield, Ryan B \* Sifuentes, Willie J \* Simpson, Joycelyn R Slack, Reginald Solis, Armando O \* Wells. Steven \* York, Ronnie L \*

#### Students below have earned 72 Unit Certificates

Allen, Michael D \*\* Burton, Robert L \* Golston, Sandra Hubbard, Curtis Jackson, Larry \*\* McWright, Jimmy O'Shields, Jimmy L \* Walker, Melvin \* Warren, Gregory \* Weatherspoon, Leonard L

#### Students below have earned 84 Unit Certificates

Beavers, Robert M Ford, Larry W Newman, Anthony Q Newman, Anthony Q Reeves, Gary A

#### Students below have earned 96 Unit Certificates

Ricks, Julie A \*\*

Students below have earned 108 Unit Certificates

Miller, Mark E \* South, Jack \*\*

## REMEMBER A PRISONER

"Remember the prisoners as if chained with them..." Heb.13:3a NKJV



WRITE-WAY Prison Ministries, Inc. PO Box 461582 Garland, Texas 75046-1582



## **Dear Friends**,

July 2010: Vol. 28, No. 07

## **MEMORIAL GIFTS**

"If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor." John 12:26

Thank you for your many kind responses to honor Ralph's life and dedication to this ministry. Below we list those who have sent gifts as of August 19.

Mike & Janie Davis Robert & Joan Juday Garland Bible Chapel Howard & Jeanne Hendricks Earnest& Virginia Beasley Alan & Judith Wharry Nell Wilson Rodger Turley Don & Paula Cabeen Frank & Hilda Fernandez Tommy & Nancy Messer Ruth McKinney

Gordon & Esther Robinson William & Joann Croley Cliff & Flora Adams Donald & Glenna Albertson Mrs. E.M. Sonnenburg Audrey Fullerton Volunteers of Branch 002 Donald & Annette Johnson Feiker Family Loving Trust Shirley Stone

## **TESTIMONIES**

## OVER 20 YEARS

"First of all I would to thank you for ministering to me for over 20 years. As I prayed for you it occurred to me that God uses people to bless people. So I wanted to write a personal thank you aside from my lessons. Thank you. You have all been an encouragement for me." Jimmie

## CHURCH ON THE REC YARD

"A friend and I conduct our church on the recreation yard trying to bring other prisoners to the Body of Christ. We have no church here; the so-called chaplain is a non-believer, so we do it ourselves, to stay strong in the Body of our Lord. I use these same Bible studies to teach our other believers." Unknown

## THE DARKEST HOURS

"This is my final study with you while being incarcerated. I will be released on July 19th. Please send my graded exam booklet to my new address as I wish to continue the courses until I complete all of them. God bless all of you at Write-Way for seeing me through the darkest hours of my life while I have been locked away for these past three years. You will never know fully what your ministry has meant to me." Unknown

## SEND ME ALL YOU CANDODODODOD

"I am writing with a desire to take your Bible courses. I have run into this address numerous times in my quest for good Bible study courses, so I feel like God has led me in this direction. It has now been about five months since I gave my life to Christ. And I have yet to put the Bible down! I've read through it once in a real hurry. After I finished I sat down and thought about it and tried to remember verses like you always hear the preachers do. And I couldn't quote squat!

"Needless to say, I've now devised a plan of action on coming to know my Lord better! I find I love the Lord more and more with every reading. He reveals so much to me every time I read. I just stand in awe of His greatness! I am in need of some good Bible studies. Please send me all you can!" Sammie

## A BETTER PLAN FOR MY LIFE

"I enjoyed this study. It has shown me how to deal with my coming freedom (Nov 2010). I'm 50 years old and I've spent the last 16 years in prison. It will be a shock for me outside. There are a lot of things I will have to relearn. I've signed up for the 'Gang renouncement and disassociation' program (GRAD). I know that Jesus has a better plan for my life. I'm looking forward to going to church and showing that Christ can and does change men." Steven

## CHANGED MY LIFE

"I received a notice from your ministry which informed me that I only had one more course to finish your curriculum. I want to say how very much I have enjoyed your studies. I often pass your course booklets on to others so they can learn and grow in our Father's Word. There is an enormous amount of wisdom and encouragement in your studies, and I thank God for your ministry and for the generous people who support it and for the authors who took the time to write your courses. You have changed my life in so many ways. Thank you!" Kassandra

## DAILY IN BIBLE STUDY

"I wanted to write and let you know that I received the book of Romans study this week and I am still working on the book of John. Thank you all so very much for your studies and prayers. I've been spending more and more time daily in Bible study and prayer. I started out setting aside special time every Sunday. Now I'm starting every day with Bible study. I feel the love of God in my heart like I have never felt before. Praise God!" Gilford

## JESUS LOVES US

"Please forgive me for taking so long in returning my lesson. I felt your concern for me. Your ministry has taught me so much. I see how Jesus loves us though we may avoid Him for some time. My salvation is in God's hands." Santos

## THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY

"Praise the Lord!! This student wrote that he accepted the Lord during this study, *The Greatest Man Alive*. We are so excited and thankful. We thank you for this opportunity to be graders. We are inspired by the students' insight and enthusiasm for spiritual things. It is a blessing in our lives."

Counselors Curtis and Beverly

Why not call or write/email us if you would also like to be blessed in counseling inmates in their Bible studies. You can work from home at your own pace through one of our Branch groups scattered about the state. Perhaps your church missions group would like to do this as a project. God will indeed bless you!

## **REPORT FOR JULY**

Institutions Served	353
Enrolled Students	7,859
New Enrollees	919
Professions of Faith	56
Professions of Faith Course Booklets Mailed	<b>56</b> 8,697

S	tudent Achievements Reached	d This Month:
36	Course Units Completed:	20 Students
<b>48</b>	<b>Course Units Completed:</b>	17 Students

### **Operational Finances Summary:**

July Donations:		\$ 8,294.44
July Expenses:		14,145.49
Postage:	\$ 6,889.42	
Courses:	1,792.96	
Admin/Misc	4,222.19	
Deficit:		\$ -5,851.05

#### **Contact information:**

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# <u>N E W S L E T T E R</u>

## **Dear Friends**,

## August 2010: Vol. 28, No. 07

### WPM Board Confirms New Slate of Officers

At its annual meeting on September 18, 2010, the WPM Board, amidst a full agenda of issues, voted in two new officers and confirmed two previous officers along with all Trustees for the next two years.

President:RooVice President:DayTreasurer:WeSecretary:JoyTrustee:DooTrustee:JohTrustee:ChaTrustee:Dr.Trustee:Del

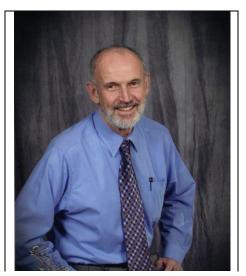
Rodger D. Turley David C. Verinder Wes Jones Joyce Jones Don Johnson John D. Coffey Chaplain Al Gibbons Dr. Esther Robinson Delwin Rettig, J.D.

President Rodger Turley will also sit as the Director of the Correspondence School as did his predecessor, Ralph Nichols. Trustees, Esther Robinson and Delwin Rettig, joined the WPM Board in June, 2010.

While working with Hunt Oil Company in their Dallas payroll department, Rodger joined Ralph in 1998 on evenings and Saturdays to learn the various tasks. In 2007 he was appointed as a penal coordinator by ECS. Upon retirement in January, 2008, Rodger joined the volunteer staff full time.

Over a decade ago Rodger starting writing some of the students and that led to prison visitations. Because "aftercare" is such a desperate need, Rodger leased a house until 2009 and over four years housed 15 different parolees. In addition, he has been on 14 Weekend of Champions with the Bill Glass ministries, visiting and sharing with inmates in their pods and cells. Rodger has a heart for prison ministry and his gifts of mercy and compassion have greatly encouraged all who work with him in the home office and in the various branches.

Please pray for this Board, the staff, and all volunteers as they apply their God-given wisdom to this Godordained task of reaching prison inmates.



New WPM President and Correspondence School Director Rodger D. Turley

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

Below we list and gratefully thank those who have sent memorial gifts as of September 23.

#### For Ralph M. Nichols:

Bob & Bonnie Cathey John & Deanna Kwyzla Barbara Godfrey Donita Robinson Eleanor Work Lawana Wagenhauser Shirley Atkinson Ada Platfoot Cornerstone Ministries (Chaplain Al Gibbons) Grace Monroe Anne Hill

#### For Tom Holmes, Jr.:

Uncle of Sylvia Sheets, Branch 26 volunteer Brother of Ruthie Sonnenburg, Branch 7 volunteer

#### For Viola Lemaster:

(Mother of Bonnie Cathey, Manager, Branch045) Anne Hill Donald & Valerie Mullins

**For Nellie Warren:** (Sister of Trustee, Office Manager, Esther Robinson) Betty Baugh

## TESTIMONIES

## IN A FEW WORDS...

"As a gift I'm asking that you accept this offering, and I'm sending it with great joy, for the courses were very comforting, I learned so much, and they sustained me while incarcerated since 2006," **Roland** 

"I, as well as five other brothers with whom I have shared the booklet 'Doing Time With Jesus,' have truly enjoyed it and really benefitted from its real life and biblical way of dealing with real problems in being a believer of Christ Jesus and being incarcerated." **Ernest** 

"I want to thank you all for sending me this booklet (The Woman Who Pleases God) which I enjoyed immensely because it has helped me work through in my mind what I should do and who I should be." Sandra

"Thank you everyone who has worked with me on these courses, though I wish I knew you by name and face, but I have the hope of standing in His presence with you with our hands raised high and praising our Great God and King throughout eternity." **Jacob** 

"I pray that the Lord continues to bless this ministry and all of you who freely give your time to those of us in prison because your words of encouragement and prayers are all some of us get in the mail." **Steven** 

"I have been doing these Bible studies a long time, and here I am back in prison writing you to send me my study one more time, but I want to stay out of prison this time because I have gotten old and tired and don't want to die in here." **Eric** 

"I want to write a personal letter thanking you (such a great organization) for all your help, hard work, and dedication in the Bible studies and I have enclosed a form to enroll a fellow inmate, hoping and praying he enjoys your studies as much as I do."

Daryl

## **REPORT FOR AUGUST**

Institutions Served	352
Enrolled Students	7,938
New Enrollees	858
<b>Professions of Faith</b>	55
Course Booklets Mailed	8,522
Course Exams Completed	5,433

S	tudent Achievements Reached	This Month:
36	Course Units Completed:	29 Students
<b>48</b>	<b>Course Units Completed:</b>	30 Students

### **Operational Finances Summary:**

August Donations:		\$	21,446.60
August Expenses:			21,863.65
Postage: \$	8,749.8	4	
Courses:	7,982.5	i9	
Admin/Misc	3,514.	51	
Deficit:		\$	-417.05

#### **Contact information:**

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# <u>N E W S L E T T E R</u>

## **Dear Friends**,

## September 2010: Vol. 28, No. 09

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Graduation - does that bring back memories? Remember the music, the family members present, and the sense that the world was yours to conquer?

In this issue we present our WPM Graduates. There is no music fanfare, no family or friends present, and the world, the flesh, and Satan have flung them to the ditch.

But the Word of God is powerful, lifting one out of despair, washing the stains of sin away, displaying the glories of the Lamb Who gave Himself for us, and presenting a lively Hope here and into Eternity.

We commend them to their Savior, with prayers for their spiritual strength and enlightenment. May they endure their present circumstances with quiet joy and soon join us on this side of the wall to work out their salvation on our pilgrimage toward the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

## **MEMORIAL GIFTS**

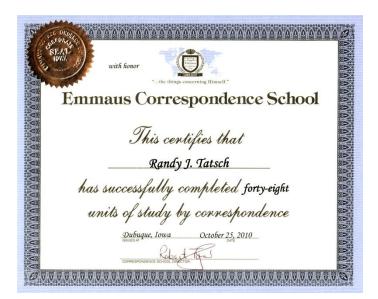
Below we list and gratefully thank those who have sent memorial gifts as of October 25.

For Ralph M. Nichols: J. Michael Amis

**For Viola Lemaster:** (Mother of Bonnie Cathey, Manager, Branch 045) Sandra S. Moore

## **VOICES OF PRAISE**

"<u>I write this short letter to let you all know that my case</u> <u>has been dismissed and I will be going home</u> in the next couple of days. I thank you all very much from the bottom of my heart for the work that you do for the Lord in helping those behind closed doors. You are a blessing to us all. I would like to continue my studies at home. I am ready and excited to serve the Lord in any way He sees fit for me." **Jose** 



"<u>God has been so wonderful to me</u>. Let me explain. I was laying on my bunk kind of feeling sorry for myself about being in prison. That's when it happened. I jumped up and said out loud, 'Hey, why am I here, silly old man!!' I started just talking to Jesus as if he were having coffee with me. Again it hit me: 'I am silly.' Anyway, I told God I was sorry for offending Him. I was the one who betrayed Him and broke one of the commandments. I don't even deserve to be taking your words to others; that would make me a false witness.

"Then it hit me again, 'Hey, silly, ask and you will be given, seek and you should find, knock and it shall be opened to you.' So I did just that. I asked God, Who is my everything, to forgive me and let me share all I know and am still learning about you, my Great God. Thank you and your staff. God Bless." **Keith** 

"Thank you for allowing me the privilege and honor to study and learn through your ministry. I am so grateful that God brought you into my life. I am ready and equipped to serve as a lay minister wherever the Lord directs me to go. The Lord has shown me that this is my "seminary" and all that He has enabled me to learn, I am to use in His service upon my release. I look forward to possibly meeting you all in person to say thank you. May the grace and peace of God rest upon you all." **Emmanuel**  "<u>I wanted to take a moment to tell you how deeply I appreciate your ministry work</u> on my behalf and that of our Lord Jesus Christ. I have never been in prison before, and at times it is a very dark, evil, and surreal place. Your Bible studies have given me a "grounding force" to hold on to. In here you don't know who is real and who is not. I have seen people come in, find Jesus Christ, and get out, leaving Him in here! They always come back to get Him again.

"It is my faith that sustains me, my hope in Christ Jesus. And your ministry has given it much needed watering and planting. The studies are smart and centered in the Word of God. They are uplifting and true to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. But there is something more.

"Every time I receive a new certificate, it comes with a returned answer sheet. In these answer sheets the grading instructor makes a comment or two concerning my answers. These comments are always encouraging words to keep abiding in the study of the Word of God. It is a small personal touch of Christian love and caring that means so much in an existence devoid of such a thing. Your kind encouraging faith-filled words give healing and love to my heart." **Martin** (see his poem below)

### THE BIBLE

The Bible is the softest pillow

- On which I have ever laid my weary mind to rest. A towering oak, whose strong branches Do shelter me from the storm and test.
- The Bible is a pathway to great heights not known. By it we soar with angels, even God above. In it we find our lives defined, Through Christ Jesus, God's perfect Love.
- The Bible is a well dug deep and true From which comes refreshing life-giving drink, Quenching our thirst for something more, For it is what God does think.

The Bible is a book with many words and true. But no other book contains the perfect Mind and will of God on each page – His feelings, thoughts, His deepest Desire For me and you.

"Someone gave me the guide, MEN WHO MET THE MASTER (1991 Edition). So I decided to send these test papers to you. I was incarcerated about thirty years ago. I love reading and studying the Word of God. I would like for you to send several courses I can distribute to prisoners." Louis

## **REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER**

Institutions Served	356
Enrolled Students	8,008
New Enrollees	772
<b>Professions of Faith</b>	38
Course Booklets Mailed	7,736
Course Exams Completed	5,278

S	tudent Achievements Reache	d This Month:
36	Course Units Completed:	41 Students
<b>48</b>	<b>Course Units Completed:</b>	<b>37 Students</b>

#### **Operational Finances Summary:**

September Donat	ions:	\$ 21,734.90
September Exper	ises:	22,307.71
Postage:	\$ 9,627.79	
Courses:	7,180.33	
Admin/Misc	3,514.51	
Deficit:		\$ -572.81

#### **Contact information:**

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# <u>N E W S L E T T E R</u>

## Dear Friends,

## October 2010: Vol. 28, No. 10

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

"...your confidence, which has great reward." Heb 10:35

The Bible frequently speaks about rewards. It's not clear whether they are gifts, a work, a place, or a Person. But the point is that neither Paul (in I Cor 3) nor the author of Hebrews wants us to lose those rewards. Even Moses "looked to the reward." (Heb 11:26)

I do not doubt that working with prisoners will earn you a reward. It just takes a lot of patience. Recidivism will try to dampen your spirit. The broken system will test your longsuffering. But the letters of testimony will thrill you.

If you would like to stuff your heavenly resume with those experiences that guarantee a return and rewards, then join us. Your gifts and your prayers will eventuate in new births and then glowing testimonies. And rewards to boot!

## **MEMORIAL GIFTS**

Below we list and gratefully thank those who have sent memorial gifts as of November 16.

### In memory of Joel A. Durrett:

From James and Teresa Pierce, counselor in BR007

## SALVATION HAS APPEARED

## IN A DARK PLACE...LIGHT

"I am currently incarcerated on a 12 year sentence and recently found Christ. Already it has changed me; my thoughts have changed and the way I react to things is different. I would like to say 'Thank you!' for your help in finding Christ. What you are doing for people is great. For the people in a dark place you bring light.

"My whole life has been about violence and crime. I am 29 years old and I'm tired of running from God. So I'm reaching out to you. God bless." **Curtis** 

### **GREAT ASSET TO THE KINGDOM**

"I am writing to let you know that you are very much appreciated for all of the hard work you do for all of us. God has placed some wonderful individuals at WPM. May God bless you all for taking time out to grade our exams and giving us words of encouragement. You are a very great asset to the Kingdom of God! May God one day place me in a ministry that's also helping and encouraging those that are incarcerated." **Rhonda** 

### <u>A VERY GRACIOUS IMPACT</u>

"I want to say that I hope that I make a good grade on the study of Hebrews, because I have never had a study come alive to me as this one. Martin Luther said his study of Romans changed his life. Well, I want to say that the study of Hebrews has made a very gracious impact on me. I can hardly wait to send this study guide home to my mother and sister. I believe it will be a true blessing to both. God bless your ministry!" **Kenneth** 

### TREMENDOUSLY BLESSED

"By the time you receive this study, by the Grace of God, I will be home. Through this treatment program the Lord has granted me to go home early. I immensely enjoy these studies and desire to continue them at home. They have brought me much closer to the Lord Jesus and the Father, always led by His Spirit. Through these studies, these last 20 months were made bearable and I feel tremendously blessed.

"'He healeth the broken in heart and bindeth up their wounds.' (Ps 147:3) All my love in Christ Jesus." **Robert** 

### I WANT TO SHARE

"I have very serious charges and may be spending a long, long time in prison. I pray, through God's mercy, I may find the courts' mercy. I got your address from a volunteer here. This time, I don't want to just simply 'survive.' I want to share the gospel of Jesus Christ. My spirit is willing, but I need a teacher to guide me in my pursuit. Can you, and will you, help me in this new life? Blessings to you all for the selfless lives you have chosen to live." John

### ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE WITH HIM

"My friend told me about your services. In this three month program I've learned a lot about myself and my relapse thinking and 'triggers.' I am going to change my life around and make something real positive out of my life. I miss my son so bad. I feel empty without him and cannot live like this anymore. I know it is going to be a struggle, but I know with Jesus and God Almighty Himself, it is possible. Anything is possible with Him, as the Bible says. Could you send me some study material and a study Bible?" **Paul** 

### THE BEST COURSE

"DOING TIME WITH JESUS is the 'best course.' A lot of questions I had before have been answered. Thank you so much for your job." **Simon** 

#### SHOWS YOUR CONCERN

"Hello to the wonderful people of Write-Way. I am soon to be shipped from my parish jail to Federal prison. When I get shipped to my new address I'll be sending my work. I think it is real amazing how you check up on people! It shows your concern and it shows that you believe in people. Thanks!" **Dominic** 

#### HOW I TRUSTED CHRIST

"I was born in Fort Worth to a drug and alcohol family. When my parents did not want anything to do with me or my other siblings, they would lock us in a room and give us one candy bar, one soda, and one bag of chips to share. They never went to church.

"When I was two years old some people from CPS came and got us and found a new family who adopted us all. They used to take us to church, but I never understood who that man on the cross was. As I was growing up I started to be a problem to my parents. I acted up, then was suspended from school, and found myself going to and from jail.

"It was on a very cold and windy night under a bridge in San Antonio and a ministry was passing out clothes and blankets. Just think, I was one of those homeless individuals! These people had services and talked about how they used to be lost in sin until they asked the Lord Jesus to come into their heart. After the service, one of the guys ministered to us in the back of his truck and stood there with his arms stretched out. That night in Dec 2008 I finally asked God and His Son, Jesus Christ, to come into my heart and become the Lord and Savior over my life. He has blessed me in so many ways." Gerald

## **REPORT FOR OCTOBER**

Institutions Served	358
Enrolled Students	8,214
New Enrollees	937
<b>Professions of Faith</b>	43
Course Booklets Mailed	8,922

### **Student Achievements Reached This Month:**

**36** Course Units Completed:**30** Students**48** Course Units Completed:**32** Students

#### **Operational Finances Summary:**

October Donations:	9	\$ 15,198.69
October Expenses:		19,517.58
Postage: \$	8,313.88	
Courses:	6,789.47	
Admin/Misc	2,765.41	
Deficit:	\$	-4,318.89

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# <u>N E W S L E T T E R</u>

## **Dear Friends**,

## December 2010: Vol. 28, No. 12

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

"For my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel." Luke 2:30-32 NKJV

How is your spiritual eyesight? This is the time of year when many are celebrating Christmas, but they do not see. The music, the decorations, the drama presentations – all slip by them without any meaning. But Simeon saw and he held the babe closely. And he rejoiced deeply.

How does one get sight? Obviously, the Holy Spirit and the Word of God play the major part. And that is why we expend a lot of energy and resources offering free Bible courses to prisoners. Oh, that they too might see and embrace the Christ of God! Then the music, the decorations, and the drama will all have great meaning and bring joy.

"Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see...many prophets and kings have desired to see what you see, and have not seen it, and to hear what you hear, and have not heard it." Luke 10:23, 24 NKJV

## **MEMORIAL GIFTS**

Below we list and gratefully thank those who have sent generous memorial gifts as of December 17.

**In memory of Lucile B. Nichols:** From Alan and Judy Wharry, office volunteers; From Bob and Bonnie Cathey, office volunteers.

**In memory of Ralph M. Nichols:** From Sala Evangelica, Branch 062 in Louisiana

#### In memory of W. Joseph Bucciarelli:

(former inmate who volunteered at the office) From Mary and AC Weitzel, Kairos friends in Beaumont



## Lucíle Belle Níchols December 22, 1909 - December 11, 2010

Sister of Ralph M. Nichols, former Director of WPM, who passed on July 5, 2010, **Lucile B. Nichols** went into the presence of her Lord just days short of celebrating her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday. She was preceded in death by her parents and all of her siblings: four brothers and three sisters.

Lucile accepted Christ as her Savior during the 1920's. She never married. She served as a nurse anesthetist in Egypt under the American Mission Hospital from 1935 until 1939 and later from 1945 until 1952.

In retirement, she was actively involved as a volunteer here at the office of WPM and much beloved by all. During the closing months of her earthly sojourn, she received excellent care from her brother, Ralph, and her niece, Helen May Nichols.

For twenty years she longed to be home with her Lord. At last she now beholds His glory.

"Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory, which You have given Me." John 17:24 NKJV

## SALVATION HAS APPEARED

#### I WILL WAIT

I don't know the time, But I do know the signs. I don't know the day, But I do know the way. I know He could be here At anytime or any day. I don't know the seasons, But I do know the reason. I don't know the reason. I don't know the year, But I do know it's near. I know without a doubt, He is almost here. He will come to make things straight. O, for Him, I will wait!

James

#### A YOUNG INMATE CAN NOW SEE

"I am in jail right now. There is a young boy here. He always looked sad every day. So one day I just asked him, 'Do you know Jesus?' He said, 'Yes, and No.' So right now, as I write, he is reading a little at a time. Today he gave his life to Jesus!" Abel

#### A "CRAZY" INMATE CAN NOW SEE

"I was living crazy, not caring for nothing, until I came to prison. I started looking for a better way to live, and I started reading God's Word. It touched my heart in such a way that it is hard to describe. All I can say is, after a long time, the love of God had entered my heart in such a way that my whole outlook on life had changed! I now show much love for others. It hurts me now when I cannot help others, especially those who reject Christ." Darrell

#### **HELPING OTHERS SEE**

"I'm still keeping the faith in God, and I'm still in my spiritual development led by the Holy Spirit. I'm still producing fruit while enduring time in prison. Ministry in prison is hard at times due to the hardness that people have towards God's Word. I've been holding Bible studies weekly based on your lesson books. Righteousness has been executed in the hearts of worldly men in this place lately! With the Holy Spirit's help, there will be a revival in this unit. Thank you for reaching out to me as I'm enduring this time. I've truly made a 180 degree turn around for the rest of my life." Dezman

## **REPORT FOR NOVEMBER**

Institutions Served	357
Enrolled Students	8,243
New Enrollees	1,345
<b>Professions of Faith</b>	50
Course Booklets Mailed	9,043
Course Exams Completed	5,212

#### **Student Achievements Reached This Month:**

#### **36** Course Units Completed: **38** Students

48 Course Units Completed: 28 Students

#### **Operational Finances Summary:**

November Donat	ions:	\$	11,210.40
November Experi	ises:		16,056.64
Postage:	\$ 8,204.86		
Courses:	2,828.40		
Admin/Misc	3,696.17		
Deficit:	\$	-	4,846.24

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