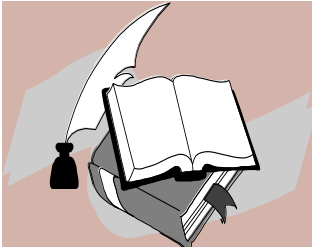


WRITE-WAY Prison Ministries, Inc.

PO Box 461582, Garland, TX 75046-1582

BLESSINGS FROM PRISON

October 2020: Vol. 38, No. 10



Dear Friends,

In our Navigator course, **Studies in Christian Living, No 2, Beginning a New Life**, we ask the students to share their testimony – **Before I trusted Christ, How I trusted Christ, and Since I've trusted Christ. It is fascinating reading. Enjoy.**

I'M GUILTY

"I lived by a moral code – respect. If you disrespected me, I would hurt you. I was arrested for arson. Someone had disrespected me and I burned down his truck and house while four people were inside. I could have cared less if they died (they did not).

"As I'm sitting in county jail, I had a revelation and that was the moment I surrendered my life to God. I finally knew the meaning of peace and was filled with joy. My attorney came to visit and told me they had no evidence or proof I started the fire, and that I'd be going home soon. I gave him my testimony and told him I wasn't going to lose this peace and start my new life on a lie. I'm guilty of my charge, so go from there.

"He came back with a plea bargain and 17 years and I signed the deal. I've never been more content in my life. I want nothing more than to continue to walk in His light. I wrote to my victims and they forgave me and can't wait to embrace me when I'm released. I will not allow the devil to resurrect the old Jesse; he's dead. I'm a new creation!" *Jesse*

FULL OF DARKNESS

"Before I came to Christ my life was full of darkness. Drug addiction as a teenager trapped me in Satan's grip. I was in and out of jail and then to prison for the last 13 years of my life. My family wanted nothing to do with me because they tried and tried to get through to me, but I was blinded. I didn't care who I hurt.

All I was worried about was obeying Satan and letting his lies invade my life. (see 2 Cor. 4:4)

"I sat in the dayroom of my county jail on this last trip to prison and Christ pounced on me. I was reading James 4:7-10. As I stumbled to my cell, I hit my knees and tears began to flow non-stop. I cried out to God to please save me, to please forgive me, and to give me a new way of life.

"Since that day that I committed my life to Christ, I've been given a peace in my heart that I can't describe. My family has been given back to me. I am happy, truly happy for once in my life. Christ has delivered me from drug addiction and I have a new life in Christ. (see 2 Cor 5:17)" *Victor*

I'VE GAINED

"I was a lost, lonely child, seeking things in all the wrong places. Ran away from home at 15, broke my mother's heart, and ruined my relationship with my little brother. My life took a drastic turn when I was 17 and involved in a murder. I received life in prison.

"After everything that had gone wrong in my life, something had to change. I made the choice to believe in Christ and asked for forgiveness. I have given my life to Him to do with as He pleases. I've done 19 ½ years by time I make it home next year. I had to see parole 13 times before it happened. But because of Him it happened. I am not bitter for the years I've lost. I haven't lost; I've gained. I've gained a Christ-like mind. I don't forget the real reason I was granted a second chance and my freedom." *Christine*

OUR MISSION: To introduce Jesus Christ to each imprisoned person in TX, LA, MS, and NM through a curriculum of English and **Spanish** Bible correspondence courses that are free, postpaid, and volunteer counseled.

PRAYER CORNER

With the lockdown in the prisons due to the virus, we are sending out more courses per student in order to keep them occupied with something positive. Please pray for additional funding to cover the costs of books.

I WAS NOT HAPPY

“I was born and raised as a Mormon, thinking and believing it was true. I grew up brainwashed and living in a cult. I believed a bunch of really ridiculous stuff that’s had a lasting effect on my life. But even though I was a Mormon, I didn’t really live the Mormon lifestyle and spent a lot of time sinning. I was not happy with my life!

“When I met my girlfriend (now wife), we were discussing our religious beliefs (she as a Christian). I tried explaining to her that Mormonism is Christian as well (It’s not). She said she would investigate it herself online. I decided to see what I could find online to be ready to counter the lies I knew she would find. But I found out the Mormon Church is a lie. Everything I knew, everything I had been taught was a lie. I resigned my membership in the Mormon Church and accepted Jesus as my Savior.

“Since then my parents and my two older sisters have shunned me and shut me out of their life. My dad died in 2015 and my mom died in 2016. My wife cheated on me and left. I got arrested in 2017. I have no family and no friends out there, but I try to stay in the joy of Jesus.” *Steve*

In Memory of:

Gwen Spaugh – wife of Houston BR050 Manager, Ralph Spaugh. Gifts from Catherine Oliver and John and Suzanne Christian

Dr. Robert Bishop - pharmacist and minister to the homeless and prisoners in Dallas. A gift from Helen May Nichols

WPM Statement of Faith is available upon request.

Write-Way Prison Ministries, Inc. is a non-profit organization tax exempt under IRS Code 501(c)(3), ID No. 75-1848459. Write-Way Prison Ministries, Inc. has received grants from Interstate Batteries, Stewards Ministries, and The Dallas Foundation.

BY THE NUMBERS

| | <u>September 2020</u> | <u>YTD 2020</u> | |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----|
| <u>Ministry Statistics</u> | | | |
| Enrolled Students | 6,656 | 6,683 | AV |
| Enrollees - <i>Born To Win</i> | 537 | 5,347 | |
| Professions of Faith | 41 | 402 | |
| Course Books Mailed | 5,415 | 47,680 | |
| Course Exams Completed | 3,795 | 32,783 | |
| Graduates 72+ units | 13 | 50 | |
| <u>Program Gifts and Expenses</u> | | | |
| Expenses: | \$21,981.00 | \$182,982.24 | |
| Postage: | \$9,194.62 | \$76,728.25 | |
| Courses: | \$9,257.84 | \$73,413.19 | |
| Staff support: | \$500.00 | \$6,164.00 | |
| Qtrly Insurance | \$1,170.50 | \$3,511.50 | |
| Other: | \$1,858.04 | \$23,165.30 | |
| Donations: | <u>\$10,455.27</u> | <u>\$160,050.31</u> | |
| Acct Dividends | \$509.99 | <u>\$2,219.47</u> | |
| Reserve: | <u>\$10,000.00</u> | - | |
| NET: | <u>(\$1,015.74)</u> | <u>(\$20,712.46)</u> | |

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ALL THANKS TO JESUS CHRIST

“I was lost in the world of drugs, alcohol, and women. I did wrong and lied to people. I was slowly killing myself, until I got caught by Federal agents smuggling cocaine in 2005 and sentenced to 12 years. God intervened here.

“While there I got involved in gang activities – fights and stabbings. One day I almost killed a man. He flat-lined several times and was evacuated by chopper to a medical unit. I was sent to another unit and on 8/15/09 gave myself to the Lord Jesus Christ. I asked for forgiveness, repented, accepted Him as my Lord and Savior, and asked Him to give me the Holy Spirit so I can do His will - and have for ten years.

“I started the Emmaus Bible studies, became a licensed ordained minister, preach here at the faith dorm, and recently became the first ever prison mentor in the Bridges to Life Ministry. All thanks to Jesus Christ!”

Francisco