

# WRITE-WAY Prison Ministries, Inc.

# NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends, October 2011: Vol. 29, No. 10

# "I PRESS On..."

Beyond the number of professions we publish are myriads of other students who, like Paul, confess, "Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on...that I may lay hold...I do not count myself to have apprehended...reaching forward...I press toward the goal..." (Phil 3:12,13,14) Like many of us, one bad choice, a day of frustration, or a period of depression may cause an inmate to consider giving up or feeling that they are not born again. We must remind them, and ourselves, that this is a pilgrimage and a process. Often it is two steps forward and one step backward (For many prisoners it may be one step forward and two steps backward!).

For this reason, we emphasize encouragement and compassion in our counseling comments on exams. A timely commendation or an appropriate Scripture verse can be that needful thing to press them toward the goal. Just recently the Lord gave me this verse to share with an inmate who had lost all hope: "Paul... in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began..." (Titus 1:2)

That is powerful and it encouraged me greatly! And it gave hope to this offender, incarcerated for 23 long years. My prayer is that you too will be encouraged in your daily walk, your prayers, and your faith giving. Thank you for making the pilgrimage with us.

#### Rodger Turley, Director

#### The very best of all the courses

"I just received a call from the Chaplain at the Harris County Jail in downtown Houston where they have 10,000 inmates. He thanked me for sending a supply of enrollment forms. He said our courses are the very best of all the courses that come into the jail and they are doctrinally sound. He also said our students are the strongest Christians when released."

**Stan Boyer (Branch 003 Manager/Houston)** 

## IN HOPE OF ETERNAL LIFE

## Leading me to eternal life

"Thank you for your time and effort and support to make me a better Christian. I've learned a lot in my walk with God. Jesus has come alive through your studies and God's Word of living truth. I am very grateful and thankful to you, God my Father, and Jesus for saving my life and leading me to salvation and eternal life in heaven. I'm sure God is smiling on you. Keep up the good work!"

## **David**

#### Turned my life to the Lord

"I'm 20 years old and have turned my life to the Lord. I obtained your address from my good friend and brother in Christ. He told me that you are a good ministry. The Lord bestows favor and honor. I was told you have free materials and literature you would be able to send me. I do very much appreciate it."

Brian

## Gave my life to God

"I am writing to take your Bible correspondence. I recently gave my life to God. I really want to understand more about God because I am tired of living this sinful life. I really want to become stronger in Christ so that I could become a better person. I want to have faith in the Lord, so when I get out my wife and kids could follow in my footsteps. Please send me some lessons and please teach me about God."

Domingo

#### God has a calling for me

"I'm 22 years old and a young mother of four beautiful children. I am a single mom and now CPS is involved in my life. I have been through a lot in my life and have turned my back on God many times. I'm trying to learn to keep my faith strong as well as becoming a better parent through Christ. I would love it if you could please send me books related to these issues. I know God has a calling for me and I want to use my testimonies to save lives! In our chapel there were several addresses to write for books, but for some reason, yours stood out to me. You are the only one I'm going to write."

Lauren

#### A superb Bible study course

"I have been locked up numerous times in my past, but have never sought to discover God and His Son, Jesus Christ. This could be one of the reasons that I keep coming back. I'm getting too old for this (I'm 47 years old) and am tired of starting over constantly. I've tried many other ways but still end up in the same place. Maybe the Lord's way is my way! I heard from a fellow inmate that you offer a superb Bible study course that might enlighten me. Please enroll me."

Juan

#### My beloved brother

"I received my grades and certificates and I am so happy I can't stand it! There is great reward, not from men, but from God, like giving a glass of water.... These studies help me forget I am in prison and lift me to heaven! May God bless all of you and give peace to your beautiful ministry." Jose

#### **Since I've Trusted Christ:**

"Everything in my incarceration has been a blessing. The Lord has given me great favor. I'm in a trusty camp, my health is better, and I see the best out of the worst. God has opened my eyes and has freed me from my bond of alcohol. My marriage hasn't been dissolved just yet. There is always hope with God. I put all my trust in Him and know at the end of the day where I will be after this existence is over. I will be with Him in His glory. Amen!" **Chris** 

## Discover our place with God

"I underwent a bout with depression and attempted suicide back in May. I've been on a therapeutic unit and was not allowed my property. I am still interested in completing this course. I really appreciate the effort that's made on my behalf and those of others to help us discover our place with God and His plan for us. God bless each of you." Jimmy

#### Lives have been touched

"Thank you for the faithfulness to serve you have shown in your prison ministry. Please know that lives have been changed by God. I know mine has!" <u>Kim</u>

# DONORBRIDGE RESULTS

Online gifts: \$12,510.00 Sep Donations \*
Matching: 1,164.97 Oct Deposit

Credit Card Charge: -348.29 Total received: \$13,326.68

Thank you for your generous gifts!

# REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER

Institutions Served	337
Enrolled Students	7,896
New Enrollees	774
<b>Professions of Faith</b>	45
Course Booklets Mailed	7,732
Course Exams Completed	4,542

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

36 Course Units Completed: 34 Students
48 Course Units Completed: 19 Students
60 Course Units Completed: 18 Students

## **Operational Finances Summary:**

September Donations\*: \$ 25,354.59 September Expenses: 15,929.21

Postage: \$ 7,923.18 Courses: 4,648.19 Admin/Misc 3,357.84

Surplus: \$ 9,425.38

## **Contact information:**

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<u>Visit us or donate online</u>: www.writewaypm.org Send us your email address to receive donor receipts and this monthly newsletter electronically.

Government employees in Texas may make designated work place payroll deductions through Local Independent Charities of Texas (LIC) at  $\underline{www.lic.org}$ 

Our annual certified CPA audit is available upon request. 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 Exxon-Mobil, Interstate Batteries, Stewards Ministries, and The Dallas Foundation.

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