

BLESSINGS FROM PRISON

Write-Way Prison Ministries - A Bible Correspondence School

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“Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them.” *Hebrews 13:3 (ESV)*

“Digital-Only Mail in Texas Prisons is Smart”

There was a Dallas Morning News editorial response on Oct. 19 to the alarming increase in drugs and deaths in the State prison system. As a result, TDCJ went on lockdown for six weeks. The results: in 2022 seven inmates were killed; that number rose to 22 as of Oct. 19, 2023. Every month 238 illegal drug “discoveries” are reported. They found 1,239 sheets and 865 credit-card size “stamps” of methamphetamines, amphetamines, fentanyl, PCP or K2, a synthetic marijuana. They also found 501 cellphones, 41 gallons of alcohol, 510 weapons (sharpened metal) and 493 “other dangerous items” including tattoo guns and a handcuff key.

On a positive note, God Behind Bars has a Christian-content app called Pando that is now available on prison tablets across the country. Recently they reported that they have 1.1 million “inside” accounts with almost 260,000 clicks of the “Accept Jesus” button. Pando provides Christian movies, music, radio stations, sermons, and books to read or listen to. Hopefully, Emmaus courses will be there soon!

Rodger Turley, Director

I’m Hungry!

“I converted over from an atheist and am so glad that I have! I completed the first two units and am a little disappointed that I haven’t received my third. I’m hungry.” **Russell** [He got sent back to a county jail on a bench warrant. That jail is closed to all mail at this point. I asked the chaplain to check in on him.]

Not giving up on me

“Thank you for not giving up on me. The studies are helpful and informative. Thank you for your hard work and dedication. It means a lot to me and many others.” **Johnathan**

Incarceration has been very beneficial

“In many ways this incarceration has been very beneficial for me. Although I always considered myself a Christian, I understand now I did not truly become born again until I was behind bars. Because of prison ministries like yours, souls are being saved, broken hearts are being mended, and the Body of Christ grows stronger every day. In the midst of real evil and darkness, men and women are being helped by being armed with the Light provided in these Bible studies.

“I lost so much in my drug addiction and depravity. I lost the respect of my family and friends, my place as a strong member in my community, and my dignity and freedom. For many months I could not forgive myself. But He knew me before I was born and has a plan for me of peace and joy. The past Bible studies and future ones mean the world to me and have allowed me to be a stronger Christian. You are loved and appreciated.” **William**

Raised in Church

“I found some booklets and the Bible study on James. Wow! It’s been a minute since I did a study so in line with the Word – hands down, one of the best. I am very interested and serious in pursuing education in the Bible. My parents are pastors in Arlington, TX. I was one of those many kids that was raised in the church, always a good kid. One day in 2013 I decided to get a taste of the ‘world’ and got drunk and on drugs and got a murder charge. The rest has just been a journey of me trying to get back to how my parents raised me,” **Miguel**

OUR MISSION

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

THANKSGIVING and PRAYER

We are thankful to be in so many prisons.

Pray that Dallas CJ and Harris CJ (in Houston) would open up to mail soon.

Pray that Iowa would give us approval.

Pray that Emmaus would have us on tablets very soon.

A life of insecurity and selfishness

“Before I trusted Christ I lived a life of insecurity, anger, drug addiction, sexual immorality, addiction to pornography, and most of all, selfishness. I had parents that loved me but did not know how to show it. I rarely got punished for bad behavior and was given nearly anything I desired.

“After being in prison and still using drugs for over ten years, I had reached ‘rock bottom.’ I was spending every dollar that I could on my friends and family out of on drugs and had nothing but a bunch of ‘write-ups’ to show for it.

“One day someone asked me for a piece of Bible paper to roll a cigarette (some inmates use Bible paper as a substitute for rolling paper). I told him I didn’t own a Bible. A Christian brother overheard me say that, and about 30 minutes later he came over and presented me with a brand new NKJV red-letter reference Bible and asked that I read it and not ‘smoke it.’

“Wow! A complete stranger! I started reading it, starting in the New Testament with Matthew. I read of the love that Jesus had for me and for the sacrifice that He made for me. By the time I had read to I Corinthians, I had asked God for forgiveness of my sins and accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. I finally realized that He has never given up on me and that He truly loves me and knows exactly how to show it!” *Harvey*

BY THE NUMBERS

	Sept 2023	YTD 2023	
Ministry Statistics			
Enrolled Students	3,670	4,154	avg
Enrollees - <i>Born to Win</i>	227	2,996	
Professions of Faith	11	89	
Course Books Mailed	2,510	25,318	
Course Exams Completed	1,640	16,275	
Graduates 72+ units	0	84	
Program Gifts and Expenses			
Expenses:	\$8,264.07	\$126,188.44	
Postage:	\$4,677.79	\$49,297.82	
Courses:	\$0.00	\$37,113.42	
Staff support:	\$410.00	\$8,551.37	
Qtrly Insurance	\$1,451.75	\$4,355.25	
Paper/Envelopes	\$589.05	\$9,340.15	
Other:	\$1,135.48	\$17,530.43	
Donations:	\$9,283.39	\$131,199.38	
Acct Dividends	\$1,608.86	\$10,748.39	
NET:	\$2,628.18	\$15,759.33	

I’ve been at war in my mind

“I want to thank you all for sending me my new Bible studies and finding out where I got moved to. [A major part of our ministry!] They have helped me so much in my walk with the good Lord Jesus. You also sent me a Scripture from II Corinthians 10:5 that helped me so much cause I’ve been at war in my mind. Thank you all so much, for all that you do for us who are locked up. You all are in my daily prayers.” *Michael*

Beneficial to my turning my life over

“Thanks for all your Bible studies you send. Thank you for being beneficial to my turning my life over to Christ.” *Natalie*

I love this course

“I can’t tell you how much I look forward to each and every lesson. I love this course.” *James*

Admired your work

“I greatly admired your work for prison ministries – a well-structured and maintained program!” *Bill*, a retired donor now living in MO