

BLESSINGS FROM PRISON

Write-Way Prison Ministries

PO Box 461582 Garland, TX 75046-1582

A Bible Correspondence School (Authorized Distributor for *Emmaus Worldwide*)

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“Remember the prisoners as if chained with them.” *Hebrews 13:3 (NKJV)*

Some interesting stats

Women’s incarceration in USA county jails and state and federal prisons has gone from 26,326 in 1980 to 180,684 in 2022.

Basic necessities from commissaries for prisoners are greatly overpriced.

The average prison wage tops out at \$0.52 per hour. A packet of Ramen noodles can be had at Walmart for about \$0.20. But prison commissaries charge as much as \$0.65. A prisoner would have to work 1.6 hours to afford one packet. Some examples are:

17.3 hours work to pay for reading glasses.

10.9 hours to pay for toothpaste.

7.1 hours to pay for soap.

2.8 hours to pay for a toothbrush.

Texas does not pay their prison workers at all, arguing that the labor of incarcerated people pays for their room and board. One Beaumont Federal prison has a contract with the government and pays working inmates about \$360 a month.

The opioid crisis in Dallas County is worsening. In 2018 fentanyl was responsible for 11.4% of all opioid-related deaths. By 2022 this figure had risen to 70.5%. The crisis is compounded by the fact that legal fentanyl is being mixed with other illicit substances.

What should I be doing?

“Please do not mail any more courses. I have 100 certificates and I don’t know what to do with them. How should I use this knowledge; what should I be doing? Where can I get a degree and be ordained?” **Johnny**
[I told him to speak to and help his chaplain.]

Testimonies from our Death Row students

“To a most blessed ministry... God bless you, each of you, and all that you do to spread the Word and true Godly love. Thank you; we love you and have you in our hearts and prayers.” **George**

“Thank you for all the materials you sent us. It’s such a blessing to study stuff that gives us a practical way to apply the Word of God as prisoners.” **Chuang**

“I want to thank you all for everything you do for us behind these walls. We really do appreciate the books that you’ve shared. May God continue to watch over and bless you always.” **Garcia**

“Thank you so much for the course, *Walkin’ the Walk*. I enjoyed it very much.” **Fabian**

“Thank you for the book. I really enjoyed it and it opened my eyes.” **William**

“I wanted to say, Thank you, for blessing Death Row with *Walkin’ the Walk*.” **Bee**

“Thank you for helping us get this small group going in a Bible study and giving me the opportunity to serve my community and the Lord Jesus. Thank you for the study course booklet [*Walkin’ the Walk*] and years of helping me grow in the Lord and Word! The guys enjoyed the lessons which created a lot of dialogue and are looking forward to the next course.”

Rodolfo (graduate and leader)

I just want to testify

“I’m having a mountain-top experience and I just want to testify. I was in a dark place and I found one of your Bible studies in the dayroom, which the Lord used to bring me to Him. So many miracles in my life!” **Brandon**

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.

IN MEMORIAM

Grace Milam Hill- home on 07/16/2024

Gifts from: Allan Bundy

Dee & Ron Wingo

Rodger Turley

God put it in my heart...

"I want to let you know something. I always pray to God to show me what His plan is for me, what He wants me to do. Every time you mail a lesson or test scores, you always send a New Student Enrollment sheet. I did not know what to do with them. I did not want to throw them away. So I think God put it in my heart to put them on the tables and on top of the water cooler. So I did and forgot about them.

"But believe it or not, I saw the officer passing out mail including five or six of your correspondence envelopes. You can't miss them; they are very noticeable. And then last night I saw a fellow inmate walking with his *Born to Win* lesson. I said to myself, praise God that the inmates are getting these Bible studies. It felt good. Thank God for putting it in their heart to do these studies. And thank you, Jesus, for giving me a grader who goes the extra mile."

Lacey

Stuck in the darkness

"I thank you and appreciate your hard work and contribution. You are truly children of God. May God bless us all. I write this letter to thank you, for without your help I probably would still be stuck in the darkness. I was able to fight through and get back on my feet, spiritually, physically, and mentally. The world is such a beautiful place because you have played a part in it. I am inspired by you and I was saved because of you and our Lord Jesus Christ. I wake up every day, ready to take over the day. My hope for the bright future is here. May we cross paths someday." **Tin**

BY THE NUMBERS

	<u>JULY 2024</u>	<u>YTD 2024</u>
Ministry Statistics		
Enrolled Students	3,023	Avg. 3,055
Enrollees - <i>Born to Win</i>	358	1,940
Professions of Faith	5	31
Course Books Mailed	2,127	15,324
Course Exams Completed	1,345	9,656
Graduates 72+ units	6	42
Program Gifts and Expenses		
Expenses:	\$6,813.66	\$82,788.38
Postage:	\$3,158.66	\$32,594.31
Courses:	\$0.00	\$22,183.47
Staff support:	\$785.00	\$6,373.00
Qtrly Insurance	\$0.00	\$3,021.50
Paper/Envelopes	\$140.83	\$3,378.52
Other:	\$2,729.17	\$15,236.95
Donations:	<u>\$10,752.00</u>	<u>\$76,011.21</u>
Acct Dividends	<u>\$2,022.34</u>	<u>\$10,982.10</u>
NET:	\$5,960.68	\$4,204.93

Helping one of the lost sheep

"I want to first thank You, Lord, for giving me a cell mate who wanted to share this ministry with me. I also would like to take just a minute to thank you for making these Bible studies available to someone like me. My life has been changed in many ways since I was arrested for drugs and conspiracy, but this Bible study has changed my life, for now I have no fear of my fate, because it's in God's hands and He has redeemed me from the old man I don't have to be any more. God bless you and thank you for helping one of the lost sheep find my Shepherd again." **John**

One of the best lessons yet

"This was by far one of the best lessons yet [*Managing Anger God's Way*]. It was very enjoyable, but also made me look closer at myself and my walk with God. It's not easy being in here with so many 'sayers' of the Word, but not 'doers.' And the amount of disrespect for others is another big issue. But with this lesson, I can apply the things I've learned here and put it toward making myself better, doing better, and keeping my relationship with God intact. So, thank you from the bottom of my heart. May the good Lord continue to bless you and the Write-Way Ministry staff for all that you do." **Harvey**