

KING'S KATCHUP

To "catch you up" on the Gospel work of Jim and Pat King

Dear Friends of this Ministry,

Again this month e begin our prayer letter with some more information about our jail ministry.

WHY PRISON MINISTRY?

Why must believers be concerned about prison ministry? Because. . .

1. Prison ministry has a direct Scriptural mandate (Matthew 25:31-40). Throughout the Bible are examples, descriptions, and commandments about prisons, prisoners, bondage, captivity, and slavery. The Bible mentions prison, prisoners, or imprisonment more than 130 times.
2. We should follow the example Christ set by ministering to prisoners.
3. Prisons meet the criteria of any mission field: Lost people and a need for laborers.
4. God is not willing that any should perish--not even serial killers, rapists, and molesters (2 Peter 3:9). God loves even the "worst of sinners" (1 Timothy 1:15).
5. Chaplains cannot minister to more than a small percentage of inmates in their care. They cannot do all of the necessary work themselves, as there is just not enough time to do so.
6. Many jails and prisons have no professional chaplains and many have no religious services at all.
7. For every person incarcerated, there are three to five other people affected: Mates, children, parents, etc. Inmates and their families represent a large segment of society in any culture.

GOALS OF PRISON MINISTRY

The spiritual goals of jail and prison ministry may include one, some, or all of the following:

1. To share the unconditional love of God.
2. To present the Gospel of Jesus Christ in such a way that inmates will embrace it and receive Christ as Savior.
3. To disciple new believers in the Word and teach them how to study the Bible.
4. To demonstrate the power of prayer and teach them to pray.
5. To lead inmates to experience the life-changing power of God that will free them from guilt, shame, negative emotions, and addictions.
6. To minister to inmates' families.

WHAT THE GOSPEL HAS TO OFFER

The Gospel of Jesus Christ has many things to offer

inmates.

1. Forgiveness from sin.
2. A chance to say "I'm sorry."
3. Release from guilt and shame.
4. Acceptance--when all many of them have ever known is rejection.
5. New values and perspectives.
6. Strategies for coping with difficult situations and negative emotions.
7. Basics for true honest relationships.
8. Life abundant through Jesus Christ.
9. A new purpose for living.
10. Eternal life.

WHAT IS YOUR ROLE?

Of the millions of active believers worldwide, only a small number are involved in ministry to prisoners, despite the fact that jails and prisons are found in almost every community. Yet the scriptural mandate by both teaching and example is clear. Every believer should be involved in prison ministry. This does not necessarily mean you are called to actually go into a prison. As in missions--not everyone is called to go to a foreign field to share the Gospel. But--as in missions--every believer should be involved in prison ministry in some capacity

There are many ways to be involved:

1. Provide prayer support for prison ministries.
2. Visit an inmate.
3. Write to a prisoner.
4. Assist families of inmates.
5. Help inmates transition back to society after their release.
6. Conduct worship services, Bible studies, or group meetings inside prison.
7. Provide Bibles and Christian literature for inmates.
8. Provide financial support to a prison ministry.
9. Serve as a prison chaplain.

At this writing, the wound from Jim's operation is healing, but very slowly. Do pray that the Lord would heal his foot completely so that he can get back to his jail work. In the meantime we are getting more Bible studies ready in Portuguese to put up on the Internet.

HANTK YOU form your continued support!

Sincerely in CHRIST,
The Kings

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Jim and Pat King
If you feel the Lord would have you give a special gift for literature work in Brazil please send your check to the mission designated for that purpose.

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