



THE KEY

May/June 2022

T.I.M.E FOR CHRIST JAIL MINISTRY

The Chaplains Corner
Ted White



I wept when I asked for prayer for one of the first inmates I had ministered to, when he was given 40 (deserved) years in prison. God had changed my heart and now he was a loved Child of God.

GRACE

In Matthew 25:31-40 Jesus addresses groups of people that he specifically wants us to minister to. He wraps it up by saying, “whatsoever you have done for the least of these you have done for me.” The people he points to are the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger who needs a place to stay, those who need clothing, the sick and then he says, *the prisoner.*” Until he got to the prisoner as part of the list, we would all think, “well yes, those people are deserving and they are certainly not criminals!” The average person will say, we want to help those people but not people who are in jail!” Furthermore, they may belong there! Do you know that is exactly what the religious leaders said about Jesus? He was a prisoner and they said “Crucify him!” You may think, don’t compare an inmate to Jesus! This is exactly why our Lord put prisoners on the list. He had been there. He knew what it is to be despised. Perhaps that is why Jesus wanted to share a new concept which is *Grace*.

When I first went to serve at Bexar County Jail as a volunteer, I was just filling in for someone. It was temporary. My whole adult life I had worked as a corporate executive, raising a family, attending church, going to Bibles studies but I was never touched by the undercurrent of society...lawbreakers. I continued to volunteer at the jail and over time I began to see inmates as people who needed Jesus. God gave me compassion for them. I remember when one of the inmates in my class went to prison. He was young and he got 40 years, which, no doubt he deserved. It seemed to be a life wasted but while he was at Bexar County Jail, he came to know the Lord. Yes, he had to pay for his crime but God just saw him as one of his lost sheep and saved this young man...eternally.

Over time I was offered the job as full time Protestant Chaplain, a job by the way that in no way measured up to being in the corporate world. That is in *man’s economy, not God’s!* Yet, as I look back over my life, leading up to becoming the Chaplain, I didn’t plan it, nor desire it. God changed my heart. That is why I know this was God’s plan for my life. Scripture says in Proverbs 16:9, “A man’s heart plans his way, but the Lord direct his steps.” I ask you to not be a religious leader who has no grace, but rather remember that “while **we were enemies** we were reconciled to God by the death of his son.” Romans 5:10 a



Update on the Ministry within the Jail

- Volunteers have been allowed to return and are visiting inmates in both the male and female jail cells (pods)-PRAY more can return!
- The chaplain’s office continues to fulfill hundreds of weekly requests for visits, Bibles, and other help.
- T.I.M.E. for Christ Jail Ministry passes out hundreds of materials from Bibles, to Bible Study books, and the Book of John.
- Continued work to re-establish the inmate services such daily classes administered and coordinate by T.I.M.E. for Christ Jail Ministry
- Work with family members and jail administration to communicate with inmates and or answer questions to family members about their loved ones inside the jail



T.I.M.E. FOR CHRIST JAIL MINISTRY

PO Box 780484

San Antonio, TX 78278-0484

**T.I.M.E. FOR CHRIST JAIL
MINISTRY Needs:**

- Pray for the inmates, the guards, and leadership in the jail. These are very difficult times to run a jail
- Financial contributions

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat....I was in prison and you came to me. Then the righteous will answer him and say “Lord when did we see you hungry and feed you... when did we see you sick or in prison and go see you? The king will answer and say, “when you did this for the least of these brothers and sisters, you did it for me.” Matthew 25: 35-40



Happy Mother's Day

Happy Father's Day

Both of these Holidays happen in May and June. Our inmates have parents who are worried and care about them; just like their heavenly father loves and cares about them.

You can donate by mail or by [Pay Pal](#) using our website and clicking on donate.

Time for Christ Jail Ministry
PO BOX 780484
San Antonio, TX 78278-0484
Website: time4christjail.com

One of our Daughters

As Chaplain I am used to meeting with the male inmates and ministering to them. My office is in the main jail where the men are held. I am used to pushing back and demanding more from them. It's a warranted approach because many, if not all, have used intimidation or manipulation for so long as part of their normal way of life. I have to be harsh to get past that. I found myself recently visiting with a young, 19-year-old female inmate because her family had asked me to talk to her; so, I had her brought to my office. I get a lot of calls for this type of help. This was her first time in jail and she made me think of someone who could be my own daughter. I fell for her promises hook, line and sinker. This isn't a story with a happy ending or any ending at all. She could be anyone of our children, grandchildren, a friend's child etc. She was released shortly after this because it was her first offense and the judge or DA hoped the best for her. Perhaps she believes her own lies when she is saying them. Within two weeks, she was in trouble again. We don't know how long or what help will work but the thing is her mother and family love her dearly. They know the young sweet girl she was; it has not been that long ago, when she was this daughter and her family wants her back! It's important that we are here when these vulnerable and scary times occur for the young inmates who are brought in. This time we just may be able to get through to her and help her. Since she has been rearrested, I am already lining up our female volunteers who serve with T.I.M.E. or even other organizations that have women who may be able to come in and speak with her. I can't save her by myself but I know that being available to her, her family, and trusting that God has a plan for her life is a mission He has me on. Even a seasoned man like myself is reminded that these situations aren't simple and that I have to surrender as I pray and work hard to help her and those we serve in the jail.