



THE KEY



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

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CHAPLAINS CORNER-Ted White



The **T.I.M.E. for Christ Jail Ministry** plays an important part in the lives of our inmates by leveraging our role within the jail. We connect inmates to additional faith-based services, mental health services, and connections to other nonprofits related to work inside and outside of the jail.

Our leadership, trusted work, and coordinated processes allows for God to work in the lives of thousands of inmates even though we only have one staff member and volunteers. Please know that this can impact the inmate's life, their families, our society with decreased recidivism, and the safety of the jail.

Right now, we are preparing for a weekend revival with a church and have prepared 400 book of John Bible studies that will be passed out. This event will include a large church service and allow weekend volunteers to minister to inmates. This enables a group of volunteers and a church to provide ministry that can't do daily like we do. They wouldn't be able to come in and do something incredible like this without our coordination. It can be very powerful and then we can follow up with inmates.

We also work with nonprofits who have clients who have been arrested, like Christian Assistance Ministry that need us to meet with one of the people they serve. Our visits are important because these are often very vulnerable people who likely need a social service program rather than incarceration. Our help can ensure they don't fall through the cracks.continued on the next page

Would you believe there are days at the jail when it is a real struggle to do God's calling on my life? Like any work place, there are personality conflicts, workplace politics, too much to do and not enough help to get everything done.

I will bet every one of you has many of these same struggles. Being in the ministry is no different! However, the thing that gets me through a "bad" day is the presence of God in Bexar County Jail. That is **His** workplace! When I get discouraged, the Holy Spirit whispers, "be imitators of Christ; Walk in love." (Eph. 5:1,2) When I do, I am put back on His path and the "bad" day seems to miraculously turn into a good day.

One of the byproducts of the jail ministry is working with the employees and administration. Many times, an officer will come to my office and ask, "Will you pray for me?" Recently an officer had a serious illness that could take her life. She doesn't have a church, so in a way, I am her pastor. I have had the opportunity to go through this valley with her each time she takes a treatment. The Lord has opened a door for me to talk to her about her need of Jesus. It's a process, but this is when I know I am so blessed to be available to those in need be they inmate or employee.

Sometimes when we have a staff meeting with the Human Services employees, I will bring tamales. Why do I do that? It is an opportunity to remind them that **T.I.M.E. for Christ Jail Ministry** is part of the team, even though I am not employed by the jail at all! It is a picture of how Jesus welcomes everyone; he intercedes for the sick, he feeds the hungry and he puts His people at **their** table. All of these things matter because I am not there to serve the inmates only. I am there to show God's love to all.

That is quite a "yoke" to carry because I have the same human failings as anyone. Jesus says, "Come to me all who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me...for my yoke is easy and my burden is light." (Matt. 11) The meaning of this scripture is to show us God's intention for us. It's not to weigh us down, but to give us rest. I don't have to accomplish this ministry alone; I am yoked to Jesus.

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which He prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:10



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He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and burst their bonds apart.

Psalm 107:14

Our Mission is to evangelize and disciple inmates resulting in a spiritual awakening and an intimate love relationship with Jesus Christ, thus empowering them for an extended incarceration or return to society.

T.I.M.E. for Christ Jail Ministry

- Provides hope and answers for a new life to thousands of men and women each year
- After presenting the gospel, we have an opportunity to disciple and equip them for their next journey.
- Over 10,000 have been baptized
- Your donations, prayers and dollars make this possible!



story continued...

In addition, the mental health unit within the jail relies on our chaplaincy service to assist them with inmates suffering with mental health breakdowns. These individuals will often respond to a conversation with a chaplain and prayer and through our support the person may avail themselves of the mental health care they need. We also work with an organization called Grace House who take in women who are ready for release and we coordinate the right person who is being released to enter their program outside of the jail. Our work reminds me of the loaves and fishes' story, where 5 loaves and 2 fishes fed thousands!!!

Time for Christ Jail Ministry

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You can donate today