



# THE KEY



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

July/August 2022

CHAPLAINS CORNER-Ted White



**Michael** is an incredible long-time volunteer at the jail. Here he shares how he sees his work, cultivating the field for Christ in the jail; like a farmer tending his crops. Often this hot and hard soil can seem impossible and TCJM is like the soft rain and seeds of opportunity for a new life.

*As I was delivering Bibles and spiritual literature on Thursday, pushing my cart to the many pods in the jail and meeting with those who had requested visits, it dawned on me that I was like a farmer in the time of Jesus.*

*Like the farmer toiling in this hot sun, I was “broadcasting” the word of God on the large field that is the Jail with some of the seed falling on the wayside where Satan’s minions remove it. Some falling on thin soil, some on soil growing weeds and thistles, but SOME on good soil to produce yields of 30, 60, and 100-fold.*

*Though I cannot know the type of soil receiving the Word I cast and scatter, I became very aware of the distinct privilege and honor to be used of Him to scatter His word and to watch for the crop to be produced.*

*I had the privilege of getting to speak with an inmate that had completed a book we give them on the Gospel of John. Once they complete this, they can request a Bible. This is one of the seeds we pass out to the inmates, not knowing where it will fall.*

*When I delivered the Bible, we had a chance to talk and the first thing he said to me was, “How can I become saved?”*

Our country is celebrating the Fourth of July this month and that is to celebrate Freedom. The inmates at Bexar County Detention Center might not think they have much to celebrate when it comes to “Freedom.” T.I.M.E. for Christ Jail Ministry is there to tell them the truth about *freedom* in their personal lives. That is the *good news* that Christ offers to set us free from the pain of condemnation when we come to Him, confess our sins and ask for forgiveness. I had someone say to me that it must be discouraging to work with inmates when so many do not accept this invitation or we don’t know how are work impacted them. It doesn’t discourage me because only God knows where a seed has been planted, a rededication has occurred, or even that some inmate has come to the Lord for Salvation.

It has been two years since the administration has allowed T.I.M.E. Jail Ministry to resume our traditional ministry due to Covid. I was able to come back some time ago; however, it’s hard being a one man show. Finally, in the last month, a few of my team have been let back in and I can’t tell you how many have been begging to return. Bible classes started up, requested visits to the *Pods* (living spaces) are occurring and some women teachers who are teaching and visiting with the women inmates. We are celebrating and praising God for getting “T.I.M.E. back on the job” of sharing Christ at the jail!

I was at church Sunday and a “brother” there came up to me to say he had something to tell me. He said he had known a godly man for several years but he had never revealed his testimony. He relayed that the man said, “I was an inmate at Bexar County Detention Center.” My friend was shocked to hear this because he had no clue! The man said, “The Chaplain there, Ted White, led me to the Lord.” Now this former inmate did not know that my church friend even knew me. I said, “I guess the Lord wanted me to know that!” I often get a follow-up on this ministry in this way. Most of the time, however, I don’t know the outcome of this ministry, God just wanted to assure me that He is at work in this mission field.

No, I am not discouraged, I am encouraged! When God empowers our T.I.M.E. team, men and women at Bexar County Detention Center are saved. Celebrate with me!

*You can imagine my ever-so-deep wonder and joy as I enthusiastically and lovingly talked with him for a long while. He is truly a new babe in Christ and the fourth disciple I will be visiting each week going forward. Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow!*



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

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*The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;*

**Isaiah 61:1**

***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 in prison or at home upon release
- Over 10,000 have been baptized
- Your donations, prayers and dollars make this possible!

#### Time for Christ Jail Ministry

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Website: time4christjail.com

You can donate today

#### ***ELIZABETH***

The long-awaited day had arrived and finally, we were headed back into the Jail. My excitement, however, was tempered with a little grief because today was also my mother's birthday – her first in Heaven. We had been very close and she was a tremendously positive influence in my life, especially when I was at my lowest points. I had even questioned whether I should stay home, but decided to keep my commitment to volunteering at the jail.

Our 30 volunteers were divided up into 4 teams and assigned specific pods to visit and my team would visit 4. As we entered the jail, waves of emotion flowed over me; it was so good to be back inside. We visited the first two pods and once again saw how God moves so mightily in the hearts and minds of those hearing His message.

As we entered the third pod, a young lady came directly to my table and said, "Do you remember me? I was here two years ago and you came to see me then. My name is **Elizabeth.**" My heart stopped for just a second. I said, "Yes, I remember you. You have the same name as my mother." She said, "That's exactly what you said the last time." She sat down and we talked, shared tears, and talked some more and ended with a prayer.

I know that God orchestrated my every move that day to put me in exactly that team of volunteers so that I would visit exactly that pod. I am so thankful God gave me the opportunity to be at the Jail on my mother's birthday to talk, to witness, to pray for, and to love on these ladies, especially **Elizabeth.** While I couldn't give my mother a birthday gift this year, God gave me a tremendous one. Shared by **Kathy** a longtime TFCJM volunteer.