

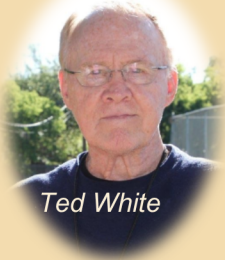


THE KEY

Fall 2024

T.I.M.E for Christ Jail Ministry

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



Ted White

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

I was recently reading a devotional by well-known author and pastor, David Platt. He was speaking about Luke 15:24, "I once was lost, but now I am found." His focus was about the people groups who have never heard of Jesus. He pointed out however, that the Bible speaks not of saving "groups" of lost people, but rather, the "one lost sheep, or the one prodigal son or the one outcast woman. We are reminded that God seeks us individually, though we may be part of a group. Do you realize there are over 5,100 inmates incarcerated at Bexar County Jail? Now that's a group! I am the only Protestant Chaplain. I have roughly 30 volunteers that teach classes on the Bible, respond to a request for a visit or deliver a Bible to an inmate who has contacted the Chaplain's office. We are not allowed to hand out Bibles at the jail unless a request has been submitted, so you can see the need for our volunteers. Many would see this as a lost cause because T.I.M.E. is such a small ministry to reach so many. Though most have heard about Jesus (sort of) but they have no idea what that has to do with them. In fact, if they do know, they believe they are not worthy of being saved. Many of you have heard about Gideon, whom God called out to fight an enemy whose numbers are described as locusts, as numerous as the sand on the seashore. To make a long story short, God did not want the Israelites to defeat the enemy by their own power, so he reduced Gideon's fighting force to 300 men to fight against thousands. With the power of God on their side, the warriors of Gideon, had victory over the enemy! It was not the number God put in the battle to defeat the enemy but the will of God that allowed the Israelites to prevail.

I once was lost,
but now am found.



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Continued...Now, I am not saying that I am Gideon, but I was called out by God to defeat the evil one at the jail. Satan wants to spread the lie of hopelessness and eternal judgement to the inmates. Like Gideon, I am fighting a very powerful enemy. I am not equipped to walk the many halls or answer all the requests I get for visits, a bible or other materials; nor do I have the ability to teach 100 classes a month, or even protect myself from a dangerous inmate. Like the battle Gideon was called to fight, our Father has sent in this small number of mighty warriors, yes, I say *warriors*, to defeat the enemy at Bexar County Jail. No, we don't reach all the incarcerated but God allows us to reach *the one* who is transformed from death to life. That *one* may carry on the message of salvation to a prison that doesn't have a ministry like ours. That *one* may be released after paying for a life of crime and find there *is* a new life in Christ. That *one* has been found and can be confident of eternal life with his savior, Jesus. Believe it or not, at some point or another *we* have all been that one and we were found! May your prayers for this ministry join in the battle!

"I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." Luke 15:10



T.I.M.E. FOR CHRIST JAIL MINISTRY
 PO Box 780484
 San Antonio, TX 78278-0484

Ways You Can Help:

- **Make a one time significant gift**
- **Commit to a regular monthly Donation (pay pal on our website)**
- **Pray for the ministry**



But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy .

Titus 3:4-5

God's Time

A former female inmate who saw her own life transformed late in life, shared that we shouldn't discount anyone as hopeless to receive Christ. She was 60 when she fulfilled her probation sentence of fifteen years. She had already served a ten year prison sentence.

Continued... She stated that we never know when it is their time but God has a plan for their life. She shared how she was shown a better path many times but simply couldn't follow it. Finally while incarcerated, **it was her time** and she was able to surrender. Miss Regina, was able to get her Masters degree in prison and has worked with the incarcerated through a non profit, changing lives. Now she is part of God's plan to be there when it is someone's time!

It is so important for us to be there when it is someone's time and our presence within the jail gives us an opportunity to plant seeds and provide people with another chance. We are always amazed how God provides these chances. Most recently one of our volunteers was hosting a class and showing the inmates a Christian show called "The Chosen". Some inmates that were not in the class but awaiting time to go to another area, were stalled and were having to wait for a room to open or transport. The guard let them watch the show. Several sent notes to our Chaplain services indicating that they were moved and didn't realize our ministry was available to them. They asked how they could sign up for classes? The point is the God wanted them to hear the **Good News** and we just happened to be there! We never believe these things are by accident.

The Bible is full of stories of those that the Lord brings to him when it is their time. We can not imagine how they will be saved or if they deserve God's grace. Scripture tells us that God's ways are not our ways. Rather, Romans 5:8 says, **God showed his love for us in that while we are still sinners, Christ died for us.** Our ministry is a vital part of God's love for all and how he uses us to reach out to those who are in their own prisons both figuratively and literally.

Please Support the

Ministry :

by mailing a check to

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

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