



THE KEY

July/August 2026

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.



Chaplain Bruce Gonzales

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

"Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise."

For nearly fifty years, *T.I.M.E. for Christ Jail Ministry* has faithfully ministered to men and women who, like all of us, have been "prone to wander" yet have found that God's "streams of mercy, never ceasing" continue to flow. This ministry is built on ordinary men who answered God's extraordinary call to labor in the plentiful harvest of the county jail. Their faithfulness has become a legacy that points not to themselves, but to the God who has sustained every step.

For more than twenty years, Ted White faithfully carried that calling. His service stands as a testimony to what God can accomplish through a willing servant and provides a firm foundation as we look toward the next fifty years of ministry.

As I reflect on that legacy, another verse of *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* comes to mind:
*"Here I raise mine Ebenezer;
Hither by Thy help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home."*

Many of us have sung those words for years without ever asking, *what is an Ebenezer?* I confess that, for a long time, I wondered the same thing. It certainly has nothing to do with *A Christmas Carol*. The answer is found in 1 Samuel 7. After years of rebellion, the people of Israel gathered under the prophet Samuel. They confessed their sin, fasted, prayed, and destroyed their idols. When the Philistines came to attack once again, God's people feared, but instead of trusting themselves, they cried out to the Lord. God answered with mighty power, throwing the Philistine army into confusion and giving Israel a victory, they could never have achieved on their own.

*Come thou fount of every blessing, tune
my heart to sing thy grace; streams of
mercy never ceasing!*

When the battle was over, Samuel did something remarkable. He took a stone and set it up as a memorial. He named it **Ebenezer**, saying, "Thus far the LORD has helped us." That stone was far more than a monument. It was a visible reminder for future generations that every victory, every blessing, and every step forward had come because God Himself had been faithful.

When I think about *T.I.M.E.* and the years of ministry at the Bexar County Detention Center, I cannot help but see an **Ebenezer**. The McGregors. The Pucketts. The Whites. Along with so many faithful volunteers whose names may never be widely known, they have faithfully proclaimed the Gospel, taught God's Word, prayed with inmates, and pointed countless lives to Christ. Their lives have become living memorials declaring, "Thus far the Lord has helped us."

That legacy did not happen by accident. It was built through ordinary acts of faithfulness—through prayer, repentance, dependence on God, and a willingness to serve wherever He called. The same God who gave victory to Israel remains faithful today. As we seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, He continues to supply everything needed for the work He has entrusted to us.

Now, as I enter this season of full-time ministry, I step into shoes far too large for me to fill. Yet my confidence is not in my own ability. While I am grateful for the Ebenezer that faithful servants have raised before us, my eyes are fixed on the greater foundation—the Chief Cornerstone, Jesus Christ. He is the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. He lived the life we could never live, died the death we deserved, rose again in victory, and now invites us to come to the Fount of every blessing with empty hands of faith, trusting in Him alone for our salvation and our strength. The ministry ahead will not ultimately be sustained by programs, personalities, or plans. It will be sustained by the same faithful God who has carried this ministry for nearly half a century.

1 Samuel 7: 12 -***Then Samuel took a stone and set it between Mizpah and Shen, and he named it Ebenezer. And he said, "Thus far Yahweh has helped us."***



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

YOU ARE INVITED

Ted White's Retirement and Celebration Dinner

When: Sunday August 2, 2026

**Where: Mission City Church,
2220 NW Military Hwy**

Time: 4 p.m.

RSVP to Dawn White-Fosdick

Text (210) 563-1877



¹The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,
²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor

Isaiah 61:1,2



Coming to the Jail Saved my Life: a volunteers encounter with an inmate

One truth that consistently resonates with the men we teach is this: whether they are in jail because of their own choices or because they believe they have been treated unjustly, they are not outside of God's will. Their circumstances do not limit God's ability to work in their lives. He meets them exactly where they are. One of the Bible accounts they connect with most deeply is the story of Joseph in Genesis. Joseph was imprisoned for something he did not do, yet God used every painful chapter of his life to accomplish a greater purpose. His prison became part of God's plan.

I also share Psalm 34:10: *"The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing."* If they are truly seeking the Lord, then whatever is genuinely good for them, God will provide. Sometimes that means the answer to their prayers is release. Sometimes it means remaining exactly where they are a little longer. We should always pray for mercy and freedom—after all, James 4:2 reminds us, *"You do not have because you do not ask."* But even Jesus, in the Garden of Gethsemane, prayed that the cup would pass from Him. The Father's answer was "No," because a greater purpose was being fulfilled.

As this truth begins to sink in, many of the men nod in understanding. They begin to see that jail is not simply incarceration; it can become rescue. What once looked like bondage may actually be God's protection from the far greater bondage of addiction, destructive choices, or a life headed toward death. For many inmates, the walls of the detention center will always represent only a prison. But with Jesus Christ, those same walls can become a fortress—a place of refuge where God strips away distractions, confronts the heart, and offers new life.

One inmate, whom I'll call "John," experienced that transformation. He admitted that for years he had simply "played the system," saying whatever people wanted to hear in order to get by. But this time was different. He told us that he had finally realized coming to jail had actually saved his life. Instead of anxiously counting the days until his release, he said he was in no hurry to leave because, for the first time, he was allowing God to do His work in him.

Please Support the

Ministry :

by mailing a check to

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

PO Box: 780484

SA. TX 78278-0484

Or donate online

www.time4christjail.com

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