



THE KEY

May/June 2023

T.I.M.E FOR CHRIST JAIL MINISTRY

The Chaplains Corner



Ted White



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They That Wait Upon the Lord...

Having celebrated my 80th birthday this year, I contemplated if I should retire as Chaplain at the Bexar County Jail. Following the shutdown with Covid it has taken almost 3 years to get the **T.I.M.E. for Christ Jail Ministry** back up to speed. I had to be patient; I had to wait. Recently, I see classrooms becoming available, teachers calling and saying they will take two classes and more opportunities for discipleship classes than we have had since Covid.

You may not know it but most of our classrooms were assigned to Zoom courtrooms during Covid and they continue to be used in this way. Because of this, our classes were suspended. We still handed out Bibles and inspirational books and visited those who requested it during that time; we supported families and even the guards.

There has been a change-over in administration during this time and of officers too. We must start all over to get them on board with the **T.I.M.E. for Christ Jail Ministry**. Remember, we are a volunteer group who office out of the jail, but not part of the jail system. They are not compelled to do anything we say and this is where the Lord must open doors and help me build relationships! Seeing this, I put retirement on hold.

This is where my corporate background comes into play. God equipped me to work in the politics and relationships of the business world. I must use these skills to get the ministry back on track. The administration is now seeing a need for our influence on the inmates. As a result, we now have 50 classes a month and are handing out 300 pieces of biblical material a week on the floors!

It is not for me to say when I will retire. When you have a relationship with God, he will tell you what your next step is. He will provide what I need every day *he* has me at the jail. I had to do a lot of waiting these past 3 years for God's plan for our ministry to be revealed. As I turned 80, I worried about my own strength and the results of aging. God had other plans and I am reminded still, as **Isaiah 40:31** says "Those that wait upon the Lord will renew strength, they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not be weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Teach me Lord, Teach me Lord to Wait
Song (scan to listen)



Update on the Ministry within the Jail

Our ministry, after 3 long years, is finally returning back to the level it had been at with classes and volunteers prior to the pandemic of 2020.

Each year, we have seen it slowly returning but with no promise that we would be allowed to establish our services. Especially, since so much has changed within the jail. We also had no idea that our incredible volunteers and teachers would wait on us and return.

I have been amazed as these classes opened up and our volunteers who waited returned with enthusiasm. I heard things like "The Jail is my church"!

One of my volunteers emotionally shared that he was shaking because at his first class he had 4 inmates share that they had accepted the plan of salvation and accepted Jesus into their heart.

Sometimes we just have to be patient and the outcome is grander than we could ever have imagined. Nothing is impossible with the Lord!



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

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San Antonio, TX 78278-0484

T.I.M.E. FOR CHRIST JAIL
MINISTRY Needs You:
Monthly Giving
Setting up a **reoccurring gift** is a great way to support our ministry. This can be done with your online gift through PayPal. If we had 100 people who gave **\$10, \$20, or \$50 a month**, that could mean that T.I.M.E. would have \$3,000 a month or \$36,000 a year!

Psalm 69:33

The Lord hears the needy and does not despise His captive People.



Happy Mother's Day

Happy Father's Day

Both of these Holidays happen in

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

Plenty of Time When You are Doing Time

One of our T.I.M.E. teacher met an inmate, Richard, while he was in jail for two years awaiting trial. Richard H. attended as many classes as he could while being in Bexar Co. Jail. He eventually went to prison with a ten-year sentence to serve. He stayed in contact with the T.I.M.E. teacher (Frank G.) and asked what he could do to equip himself with the knowledge of God while in prison. How could he use his time for good instead of just waiting to get out?

The teacher told him about a correspondence course called T.U.M.I Curriculum which is a comprehensive program at a seminary level. Our teacher had been in the program himself and was certified to grade the work. Richard H. would call him and repeat scriptures for credit in the course. He sent projects from the workbook to be graded. This took four years for him to complete the coursework and receive his certificate.

It is not unusual for our teachers to stay in contact with inmates when they leave the jail and go to prison. They continue to encourage the inmate and let them know they have a hope and a future. Many times, the relationship goes on when they get out of jail and need guidance. This teacher and many others, are responsible for equipping inmates long after they have left the jail. Often this waiting period in prison is just what they need to renew their strength and achieve the plan God has for their life.