



Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry

Newsletter

May / June 2023

CHANGING LIVES FROM THE INSIDE OUT!

Why would you want to get involved in writing inmates?

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Ministry Outreaches Available:

In-Prison Ministry
After Care
Support Groups
Pen Pal (letter writing)
Mentoring
Family Ministry
Youth Ministry

Ministry training seminars are available for local churches.

In the beginning of this ministry over 36 years ago, I began writing inmates that I actually visited in the jails and prisons. As they moved from jail to prison, I would continue to write, as I would when inmates I ministered to moved to a prison I was not visiting. This letter-writing ministry quickly grew as men were transferred and new inmates were exposed to my Bible teaching and preaching. I mentioned this growing need at some of the churches I visited from time to time and I got several volunteers that were willing to be a part of letter writing. Up till 2013, I had mostly written inmates from VA prisons and a few men who were federal inmates. That year as several pen pal outreaches stopped writing these much-needed letters, inmates sought new pen pal programs and wrote ministries seeking someone to write. These ministries sought pen pal outreaches on the internet

and since Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry has the pen pal outreach mentioned on our website, we became inundated with requests from inmates all over the U.S. for pen pals.

Since I had never met any of these men, it was much different writing them blind. I had at least some understanding of the men I had gotten to know through Bible studies. These new inmates could tell me anything, and I had no idea if they were telling me the truth about their reasons for wanting a pen pal. Some men asked for female pen pals, and we had to tell them we do not pair men and women to write to each other. Others asked us to look up case law, and we had to explain we did not do that either. Some wanted us to do searches on the internet to find people who they used to be in touch with or relatives they had lost contact with, but God showed me that this could be someone that did not want to

be found by these men, so we do not do that either. So when I get the request for a pen pal, I send out an introductory letter that explains how we will be happy to write and get them pen pals, but there are also things we do not do. This separates those who are looking for something we do not offer from the ones who need Christian fellowship.

What I do not understand is why, many Christians after seeing the precautions we take through the brochure we send them about the do's and don'ts in being a pen pal, do not take on the very easy task of writing an inmate from the comfort of their home for the cost of a stamp and envelope? There is also ways to e-mail many inmates that costs less than a stamp. [Why not join us as a pen pal?](#)

Do you have a Christian short story or poem to share?

Thought from Feb. 3, 2002: I look at the children and I see an interest in everything that goes on around them. Then I hear God telling me, when they are young, teach them in the way they should go and when they are old they will not depart from it. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

We were receiving poems, short stories and testimonies from inmates which we include on the last page of the newsletters, but we are not receiving these very often lately. If you happen to have something you think we could use for the newsletter, please feel free to send it to us for review. We also ask for your continuous prayers which are

blessing us extraordinarily through these many years of up and downs with the DOC system locking down the prisons and discontinuing programs for various lengths of time causing volunteers to lose interest. After making plans to be available and preparing a message for the service, only to be contacted the day of the service by the insti-

tution saying they are locked down. Sometimes the volunteers get all the way to the prisons and then are told the prison is locked down, but no one even bothered to call. PLEASE know this: the devil is using the DOC in every state to do anything they can to prevent Christian programs in any way possible. It is worse now than ever.

How is your Christian walk coming along? Do you think anyone notices it?

I remember one time I knew this fellow for a while, and we talked at times, but we were not real close. One day I was on my way to a Bible study class, and I invited him. He then ask if I was a Christian. I was surprised at that question since I went to church and Bible studies all of the time and was not in any kind of mischief. So I said yes I am. I do not

think it was a question of doubt that I was a Christian that caused that question, but it was the fact that I never witnessed to him or spoke to him about the Lord I served. I really pondered that statement for a while, wondering what I might have done that caused that man to wonder if I was a Christian. From that point on each time I passed him, I would invite him to what ever service I was going to.

He thanked me but did not come. Finally a few months later, he came to a service someone else had invited him to, and he attended from that time on. I was very happy, but I guess pride caused me to wonder who had done what I had failed to do. Many months went by and I announced at a service that I had made parole and thanked everyone for the love they had shown me. Before the ser-

vice was over, the man I had originally invited raised his hand, stood up and said he wanted to thank the person who was instrumental in him attending the service. I waited to hear the name of this man, but then he said my name and told how many times I had invited him before he finally came. Do not give up.

Are we praying effectually and fervently for our country?

In the Book of Judges, the people sinned in terrible ways and each time instead of asking for forgiveness right away, they waited until God allowed the people's enemies to conquer them, put them in bondage and mistreat them. There is no doubt there are many more unbelievers and people who follow a false belief so their prayers do not count. Those of us who know and

follow the one true God need to make up for all of the heathens loving the sin that is not only going on today but is getting more blasphemous every day. When people allow their children, who are not old enough to make important decisions, to decide to change their sex even to the point of surgery, it has gotten appalling. But if that is not bad enough, now the government wants to allow children to do this without their parents per-

mission. How much worse can it get? Well if we do not start praying and glorifying God, we will live to see how much worse it can get. It seems the government is no longer accountable to the people. People want to defund the police and take guns away from honest people and then only the criminals will have guns. I assure you, no matter what laws are written about gun control, criminals will always find them. Schools who have

good teachers trying to teach the basics of reading, writing and math are now being inundated with curriculum which includes teaching on the LGBTQ+ agenda as if this is a legitimate class for young, undeveloped minds. I never thought I would live long enough to see our world become so anti-God. Time is short. Let's pray for these lost souls before they pervert many more of our young people.

Sunday, May 14th - Happy Mother's Day

In my case, I cannot think of any human being who I would rather honor than my mother. By the grace and leading of the Lord while I was in prison, my mother came to receive the Lord as her personal savior. While I was locked up, I got two Bibles exactly alike and mailed one to my mother. She did not know how to find verses in the Bible, so I would tell her to go to a page and look for a verse

and then I would share Scripture with her. I would explain verses to her as they were explained to me by ministers coming into the prison. I called her from time to time to share what God was doing in my life and how I felt different. I wanted her to know I was saved, and I explained to her what she needed to do to guarantee eternal life for herself with Jesus.

One day after a long time of sharing the Word of God with my mother, I got a letter from

her stating she had accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior while watching the 700 club. I followed up assuring her she would experience things changing in her life now, and she would feel the presence of the Holy Spirit. We continued to share God's Word, and I warned her of people on TV not to watch and shared ones I knew who were preaching the truth.

Back when I was in prison, inmates could get a weekend furlough after they had reached a

certain security level. I was able to go home on a Friday evening, and I had to be back by 6:00 Sunday. During that visit, I believe God allowed my mother to see a different man, one following the Lord. That was one of my greatest prayers that she would know I was for real in my walk with the Lord. What a great honor it was for God to allow me to play a small part in my mother's salvation. Praise the Lord!

How long will God's people allow the perverse teachings in our schools?

When I went to school, there was a dress code. We did not need metal detectors or police walking the hallways. School was basically a safe place to send children for an education in the basics of reading, writing, and arithmetic. State and world history was taught, although there were flaws in the facts that were left out of history. It was not being vindictive toward another race, and there were no subjects that perverted the hearts of the students and introduced disputable, blasphemous teaching that was against nature and God. Things changed slowly

and went unnoticed by many parents. Dress codes were laid aside and girls could now dress more provocative. For some reason, many students became very disrespectful and there were less consequences for their misbehavior. After school clubs got out of hand, and Christian Bible clubs were not allowed in some cases, but wiccan, Satan worship, and other cult groups were allowed. At one time, the Bible was read in the morning and prayer was allowed, but because of the efforts of one atheist, Madalyn Murray O'Hair, eventually prayer was

no longer allowed or tolerated. To think, on the wishes of this person who denied God's power and existence, she was able to stop God's Word from being shared in school. While there was a lot of controversy over this, for some reason, maybe not enough prayer and speaking up from the Christians, it stopped prayer. I am now amazed at the number of people in support of the transgender movement, especially for very young children, and supporters of the LGBTQ+ agenda as more letters are added to this group of un-

godly, perverted people. They still have an abundance of support, just like the women marching with signs saying it's their body so it should be their choice. I say they need to make a choice before they involve a new human being's death in that choice. Such things as this were never so blatant in the past. These sinful ways of life came gradually and now anything goes and the government is in agreement. What is coming next, I pray it is the arrival of my Lord and Savior Jesus coming for His church.

Why should we study the Bible when we can listen to preaching on TV or the radio?

People say, "Why do I need to go church when the church can come to me on TV or the radio? I do not have to leave home, and I can choose from many preachers." For one, there is no fellowship, which I feel is a very positive reason for going to church. If one is not grounded in the understanding of Bible truths, they could certainly be misled by many so-called ministers on TV. With them not knowing the Bible truth, the messages

they are hearing might sound good to them, even though it is false teaching. A more mature believer can discern better where the TV preacher is straying from the truth or even purposely teaching things to make people feel good about the way they are with no need of repenting. A good Bible teaching church will usually have a Sunday school class for all ages. This is where a new believer can ask questions and get their

answers right away. Plus the new and even more mature believer can share their thoughts on Scripture and grow in the Lord as others share as well, sometimes being right in their understanding and other times, perhaps they need a little direction in their interpretation. There are many wonderful ministers of God on TV, but there are also many false preachers doing what they are doing for filthy lucre (1 Tim 3:3). It is nice

when one is ill or home bound to be able to hear the Word of God at home, but while we are able, as is said in Hebrews 10:25, we should "not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching." God encourages believers to gather for fellowship. Visit a church today.

Father's Day - Sunday June 18th

My father and mother separated when my sister and I were very young. Other than summers for a few weeks, we were mostly with my mother who took wonderful care of us. As we grew up, we would go see my father in the summer and go camping with him and some friends. My father and all my family in PA were Catholic and were going to try to raise me Catholic. My mother was not Catholic and refused to become one, so the

church did not recognize my mother's marriage to my father. After I started going to Protestant services, my family warned me that I would be kicked out of the Catholic church. After seeing the difference in the way my family lived being Catholic and how people I truly believed to be Christians lived, I decided I did not want to be Catholic anyway. I was not living for the Lord, but I knew neither was my father and my family.

There came a time when my father was diagnosed with throat cancer. As time went on, the cancer ate his voice box and he used a prosthesis that vibrated so you could understand him some. My sister and I made many trips to PA to visit him because the doctor said it might be the end. Each time we witnessed to my dad. My sister and I were both saved and serving the Lord by this time. One time when he was in the hos-

pital for a prolonged time, my sister and I stayed in the hospital the entire week going to the house for a shower and a meal and then sleeping at the hospital. After explaining to my dad the importance of actually receiving Jesus as Lord and Savior many times, he nodded and tried to say that he had made that decision. Within a month, he died and I wondered if he really truly did receive Jesus or just said that to shut us up.

This is the update for Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry and Bible Readers Outreach Ministry for the months of Feb/March 2023

Bible Readers Outreach Ministries:

In Feb. 2023, we mailed out 294 Bible lessons, enrolled 18 new students, mailed 17 Bibles at \$420.61, 14 Bible dictionaries/concordances at \$241.57 Old Testament J. Vernon McGee commentary 5 at \$76.38 Misc office materials (paper, envelopes, ink, cardstock) \$31.31 Stamps \$206.64 for a total of **\$ 976.51**
In March. 20223, we mailed out 303 Bible lessons, enrolled 32 new students, mailed 4 Bibles cost of \$91.77, 7 Bible dictionaries/Concordances 4 at 104.61, Old Testament J. Vernon McGee commentary at 4 at \$52.71 and misc office materials (paper, envelopes, ink, cardstock) \$0.00 Stamps \$496.14 for a total of **\$ 745.23**

Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry Pen Pal Outreach:

In Feb 2023 I wrote 65 letters and received 12 new request during that month for volunteer pen pal. New volunteers to write inmates. 1 volunteer
In March 2023 I wrote 69 letter and received 15 new request during that month for volunteer pen pal. New volunteers to write inmates. None
I also received letters written in Spanish which I could not read. I have no Hispanic volunteers to respond to these request. I had a friend write a generic response stating we have no Hispanic volunteer. Are you interested? We have 49 volunteers writing over 177 inmates and we have 23 women needing a pen pal and 77 men still looking for a volunteer to write. We lost several female volunteers leaving 8 female inmates without a pen pal.

Mission Statement

To establish and strengthen the Christian life of inmates and their families by providing opportunities for worship, instruction, nurturing of children, fellowship, service, mutual aid, brotherly counsel, and to establish and strengthen the Christian life of evangelism. To bring the Gospel to the unsaved and to lead them to faith in Christ followed by membership in the body of Christ.

All donations of any kind are tax deductible under United States Code Section 170(c)(2). All giving constitutes your express agreement to relinquish control in accordance with IRS regulation. They can be sent to the address below and will be used to further the Jail & Prison Ministry. Make checks payable to:
"Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry"
6166 Helens Way, Schuyler, VA 22969-9607

For gifts for "The Bible Reading Outreach Ministry", please make checks payable to "The Bible Reading Outreach Ministries" and address to: Barbara Holmes
3152 Glenn Husky Rd, Sevierville, TN 37862

Questions and Answers to Quiz

Poems or Testimonies

Answers for March/April

- 1.) Denarius (Matt. 22:19)
- 2.) Caesar's (Matt. 22:21)
- 3.) Sadducees (Matt. 22:23)
- 4.) Seven brothers (Matt. 22:25)
- 5.) The angels (Matt. 22:30)
- 6.) An expert in the law (Matt. 22:35)
- 7.) David's son (Matt. 22:42)
- 8.) A finger (Matt. 23:4)
- 9.) Phylacteries or prayer boxes (Matt. 23:5)
- 10.) Rabbi (Matt. 23:7)

Questions for May/June 2023

1. In Matthew 23, how many "woes" did Jesus pronounce

- on the Pharisees?
2. When the Pharisees made a convert, according to Jesus, he became twice the son of what place?
3. Which three spices did Jesus say Pharisees gave a tenth of?
4. Jesus said the Pharisees strained out a gnat but swallowed a what?
5. Jesus said the Pharisees kept what two pieces of kitchenware clean but not themselves?
6. Jesus said Pharisees were like whitewashed what?
7. What reptiles did Jesus compare Pharisees to?

8. The blood of what two martyrs did Jesus reference in Matthew 23?
9. Jesus said he longed to gather the children of Jerusalem together like what farm animal?
10. What building did Jesus predict would be destroyed?

What is your understanding of Love?

1 Cor. 13:4-7 ⁴Love suffers long *and* is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; ⁵does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; ⁶does not rejoice in iniquity, but

rejoices in the truth; ⁷bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Another funny story

A principal is making his rounds of the school when he hears a terrible commotion coming from one of the classrooms. He rushes in and spots one boy, taller than the others, who seems to be making the most noise. He seizes him, drags him to the hall, and tells him to wait there until he is excused. Returning to the classroom, the principal restores order and lectures the class for half an hour about the importance of good behavior. "Now," he says, "are there any questions?" One girl stands up timidly. "Please sir," she asks, "may we have our teacher back?"