



Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry

July / August 2025

Changing live from the inside out

Testimony from a pen pal.

I received your letter a few days ago. I have been busy filling out forms to get my Veterans money started again. I was in the U.S. Army from 1968 to 1973. I was in the 199th Light Infantry in Vietnam.

When I turned eighteen, I went downtown Fresno and enlisted in the U.S. Army because of the war. I reported for basic training at a weight of 187 lbs. (5' 8" tall). During basic I earned "marksman" for the M-14. When I left basic training, I weighed 158 lbs., lean and mean. At that time, it didn't take long to get to Southeast Asia – Vietnam. At that time, I believed in "Survival of the Fittest."

I began seeing combat within weeks. We were fighting the N.V.A. (North Vietnam Army). Combat got good to me: I always wanted to push forward and kill the enemy. I got a "rush" when the napalm was dropped on the enemy and when the 500 lb. bombs were dropped and the concussion from them. I loved the smell of cordite from the 155mm Howitzers (cannons). I was good with my M-14. When my tour of duty ended in 1970, I "re-uped" for another tour of duty. I loved combat that much. I left the army in 1973.

Back in the states, I felt like I had to do something like combat and killing. I got

lucky in 1974 and got a job at a steel mill in Portland, Ore. That took the edge off my desires. All my life I believed in evolution and "Survival of the fittest." In 1979, I moved back to Fresno, California, my hometown. Within months, I was in jail for murder. I was sent to San Quentin with a life sentence. San Quentin was famous for the amount of inmate killings. My first year there: 68 inmate murders. There was 5,000 prisoners in San Quentin. I was there for 10 years before I was transferred. I liked San Quentin because it was my idea of "Survival of the fittest." At that time I liked the fact that sex offenders, child molesters, snitches, people who didn't pay their debts, homosexuals, etc. were killed.

When I got transferred to a lower level prison, it was hard for me to get use to. I was in San Quentin for ten years (1979 – 1989). In this lower level there was very few killings. I couldn't understand at first why sex offenders, child molesters, etc. was walking around without being hurt.

As the years went by, I got use to everything. It wasn't until 2013 that I started studying science. After reading how complex DNA was and the human cell, I figured out that this didn't come from evolution.

Also, I read in many places that the fossil record is devoid of one singular skeleton of a "man-ape" or transitional fossil. If we evolved from a lesser form such as a ape, there should be millions of these fossils around, since there are billions of people on earth, yet not one has been found. After learning these truths, I decided that "creation" was what happened. I began studying the Bible. My main point of interest at first was the Resurrection of Jesus. After reading what I could in the Gospel's, and some secular sources, I came to the conclusion that Jesus did rise from the grave on the third day. One point stuck in my mind: the 12 Apostles, as a group, was cowards, because when Jesus was arrested, they fled, not one, except for John, backed Jesus. Peter denied he knew Him. But, after they saw the risen Christ, each one of them, except for John, went to their deaths testifying for Christ in front of persecution. I then repented of my sins and accepted Christ as my Savior. Have to go now.

This is how God is working in the prison system.

Board Chairman:
Jon Freivald,
Board
Secretary/Treasurer:
Lisa Miller
Other Board Members
Tim Miller
Joe Faus
Colin Whitehouse
Ronald R. Baker
Founder/Chaplain
Executive Director
Non- Board
Members Editors:
Lindsey Wydner
Phoebe King
Web Administrator:
Mike King

Ministry Outreaches Available:

In-Prison Ministry
After Care
Support Groups
Pen Pal Outreach
(Letter Writing)
Mentoring
Family Ministry
Youth Ministry
Bible courses

Ministry training seminars are available for local churches.

We are over half way through 2025 our 40th year of service to the Lord.

In March we were blessed to begin the 40th year for serving the Lord through this ministry. Of course we give all of the glory, honor, praise the God, for allowing His Son to direct our steps in obedience to His way. As we trust in God.⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6 The finances are an important part of any ministry and I am happy to say we have not had to ask for funds in many years, which we

need and appreciate all of you who faithfully give to us all of our needs and the scripture says¹⁹ And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19 We are thankful for you following God leading to provide our needs, which assure you are not being wasted. The ministry board seem to keeping us fully accountable to all. When God called me to this ministry I have many so called friend who explained it was not God calling me it was just something I felt I needed to do because all

God did for me by changing my life, while in prison and bringing me back under His obedience. I will admit that was part of my feelings but after 40 years if it had been from my feeling that this ministry was began it would not of lasted this long, only by the grace of God. There were time early on when I allowed Satan to place doubt in my calling but I remembered God's Word while studying²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Romans 11:29. Plus as I did my morning devotional daily, studied the Word and dug

into Scriptures to answer question for inmate pen pals seeking the Lord, God assured me it was His call on me and His hold on me that allowed any good thing to come through this ministry, it was all Him.

While I am most thankful for God allowing my life after prison to account to His service I have been blessed with so many Christian friends and ever now with my health failing they are still sticking with me, unlike my so called friends who abandoned me when I went to prison. God never left me nor forsook me!

THIS IS MY STORY (A Pen Pal's story)

My name is John F., and I grew up in Lansdale, PA. Even though my parents came from Christian families, my father became a drug addict and an alcoholic. I do not remember him without a bottle in his hand. Eventually this killed him. My mother struggled herself, but she tried to protect us, and she always held onto her faith.

I allowed the world to influence me through music and TV. I gravitated towards trouble and eventually began drinking and doing drugs. "They can't hurt me. I am different than the stereotypes." I found myself robbing and stealing from friends and family. I was unhappy, lonely and lost. I soon found myself in trouble with the law, and I started running. I was looking for a way out, and an answer to my problems.

In Texas, I was eventually picked up by the police and held. I remember sitting in the back of the police car praying that foxhole prayer, "Lord help me... Please get me out of this and I will go home and deal

with everything. I promise." I prayed for what seemed like hours. The officer finally let me out of his car and told me I was free to go. I ran back to the hotel and began to drink, hoping to forget what had happened.

I woke up the next morning and my prayer kept coming back to me. I knew what had to be done. I took the first bus home. The trip was several days. Somewhere along the way I got scared and changed my mind, but it was too late. I stepped off the bus and the police were waiting for me. They took me right to the county jail, and that probably saved my life. God knows what we need most, and it was at MCCF that I accepted the free gift Jesus had for me, and my heart began to change. I wanted to make amends with my family. I wrote letters and made phone calls, but nothing happened. I started to pray and God told me to wait. This was not what I wanted to hear, but I listened and waited. The end of my time came and I still wasn't sure where I was going.

I went to a family members house that had been corresponding with me while I was in jail. They had found a place that they thought I should go. It was Liberty Ministries. I was scared and mad that they did not want me to stay with them, but I still needed help. We prayed and visited Liberty, and I was offered a bed. God knew what was best and made a way.

Going through the program, I had struggles. Six months was not enough time for me to grow to the place God needed me to be. I had to ask for an extension of time in Phase I, and the program director gave me three months. I graduated into Phase 2, and received a phone call from my parents. We slowly began to repair our relationship. God began to heal all the pain that had run so deeply in our family. Yet, something was missing. I longed to get involved in some ministry so I could share the hope God had given me, so I began to pray. One Sunday morning, on my way to church,

I got into a car accident and had to be flown to Hahnemann Hospital. I was working construction, and could not go back. Liberty offered me a part time job, I took it, feeling this was what God had for me. I began the job but could not make ends meet so I started to pray again. A door was opened at New Life. I was not qualified to do this. However, my Pastor told me, "God never calls the qualified, but He always qualifies the called." I have now been employed there for three years. Recently, God saw fit to promote me to case manager. Following God will take you places you never thought you could go. I hope that hearing my testimony encourages you to listen to God and follow Him. I leave you with this, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart: and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." Proverbs 3:5-6.

Eight things about a false teacher.

1. False teaching preys on the spiritually immature.

Paul repeatedly expresses concern for the minds of believers who may be “led astray” by belief in a different Jesus, a different spirit, and a different gospel (2 Cor. 11:3–4; cf. Gal. 1:6–7). Elsewhere, he asserts that believers will have true “unity of the faith” only when they will “no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes” (Eph. 4:13–14).

2. False teaching can be the product of distorted interpretations of Scripture by those not firmly established in the truth.

Some pervert the meaning of Scriptures that are “hard to understand,” doing so “to their own destruction” (2 Pet. 3:16). The emphasis made here is not on a particular method of interpretation or the difficulty of the texts themselves but on the type of people who distort the Scriptures—“ignorant and unstable” people (hoi amatheis kai astēriktoi). The term “unstable” (astēriktoi) shares a cognate (stērizō) with another word used in 2 Peter 1:12 to describe those “firmly established” (estērigmenous) in the truth (NIV). With the same group of terms, Peter contrasts those deeply rooted in the truth with those who are not (astēriktoi), who are more susceptible to the deception of false prophets (2 Pet. 2:14).¹

When Doctrine Divides the People of God

Rhyné R. Putman

Doctrine is important, but when is it important enough for Christians to diverge? When Doctrine Divides the People of God affirms the need for grace in disagreement and unity in diversity.

3. False teaching grows out of ungodly ambition, ignorance, and conceit.

Paul cautioned Timothy about false teachers who “wandered away into vain discussion,

desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions” (1 Tim. 1:6–7). These teachers had ambition but lacked proper understanding of the things they taught. Elsewhere in the same letter, Paul warned, “If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness, he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words” (1 Tim. 6:3–4). The ambition for power can be an impetus for false teaching as well. John challenged a false teacher who “put himself first” and denied the apostolic authority of John’s teaching, speaking “wicked nonsense” against him (3 John 9–10).

4. False teaching sometimes stems from a desire for material gain.

This tendency is very apparent in the modern world, where faith-healing televangelists and prosperity preachers prey upon the underprivileged to finance their extravagant lifestyles, but the same kind of greed motivated false prophecy and teaching in the early church (2 Pet. 2:3). As Paul defended his apostleship from this charge, “We are not, like so many, peddlers of God’s word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ” (2 Cor. 2:17). The same type of charge appears in the Pastoral Epistles: “From these come . . . constant disagreement among people whose minds are depraved and deprived of the truth, who imagine that godliness is a way to material gain. . . . For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and by craving it, some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs” (1 Tim. 6:4b–5, 10 CSB).

5. False teaching can result from and lead to inappropriate sensuality and sexual immorality.

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The idolatrous fixation on immoral behavior can yield false teaching. These false teachers “do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites [or “belly”; koilia]” (Rom. 16:18). As Peter observes, “many will follow their sensuality [aselgeiais], and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed” (2 Pet. 2:2). Teaching rooted in immoral desires yields immoral behavior. The risen Lord warns the churches in Pergamum and Thyatira about teachings that lead his “servants to practice sexual immorality [porneusai]” (Rev. 2:20; cf. 2:14). In a post-sexual revolution Western culture, people still “[follow] their own sinful desires [epithymias]” (Jude 16) and “accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions” (2 Tim. 4:3). Sensual urges and lust still motivate many to deny biblical truth about God’s design for sex and marriage and to justify atrocities like human abortion.

6. False teaching is sometimes attributed to demonic deception. Some who depart the faith do so because they pay attention “to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons” (1 Tim. 4:1). Paul cautions against affirming false apostles who are like Satan, who masquerades as “an angel of light” (2 Cor. 11:13–14). Paul forewarns Galatian Christians not to believe any other gospel even if “an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you” (Gal. 1:8). Not every spiritual work is from God. The spirit of the messenger and the message must be tested because, as John insists, spirits who do “not confess Jesus” are “not from God” (1 John 4:3).

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7. False teachers seek to divide the body of Christ. Taken from

Paul cautioned the church at Rome about “those who cause divisions and create obstacles

contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught” (Rom. 16:17). In his admonition to Titus to avoid “foolish controversies” and “quarrels about the law” (Titus 3:9), Paul remarks, “As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned” (Titus 3:10–11). Those who cause division are worldly, “devoid of the Spirit,” and are relentlessly pursuing their own ungodly passions (Jude 18–19).

8. False teaching can come from apostates and deviant teachers within the church.

False teachers from “among the people [en tō laō] . . . secretly bring in destructive heresies” (2 Pet. 2:1). Jesus warned about false prophets from among the people who outwardly come in “sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves” (Matt. 7:15). Paul blames the Galatian conflict on false teachers who had covertly entered their ranks: “This matter arose because some false brothers [pseudadelphous] had infiltrated our ranks to spy on the freedom we have in Christ Jesus in order to enslave us” (Gal. 2:4 CSB). Some of the false teachers addressed in the Pastoral Epistles appear to be former coworkers of Paul (1 Tim. 1:3; 2 Tim. 1:15; 2:15–18).² John states that his “antichrist” opponents, those who deny that Jesus is the Christ, came out of the fellowship with the churches because “they did not belong” there in the first place (1 John 2:19 CSB). In instances where theological matters of first importance are denied, rejected, or replaced, doctrine does divide the people of God from those who are not.

Taken from www.crossway.org/articles/8-ways-to-spot-false-

This is the update for Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry and Bible Readers Outreach Ministry for the months of April/May 2025

Bible Readers Outreach Ministries:

In April 2025 we mailed out 275 Bible lessons, enrolled 34 new students, mailed 15 Bibles cost of \$330.74, 3 Bible dictionaries/Concordances at \$60.45, 1 Old testament Vernon Mcgee concordances at \$20.86; Misc. office materials (paper, envelopes, ink, cardstock) \$512.61 and Stamps \$507.55 for a total of \$1,432.21

In May 2025 we mailed out 275 Bible lessons, enrolled 23 new students, mailed 9 Bibles cost of \$297.32, 11 Bible dictionaries/Concordances at \$207.22, 1 Old testament Vernon Mcgee concordance at \$12.04; Misc. office materials (paper, envelopes, ink, cardstock) \$344.54 and Stamps \$219.89 for a total of \$1081.

Rehoboth Jail & prison Pen Pal Outreach for March/April

In April. 2025 I wrote 45 letter and received 16 new request during that month for volunteer pen pal . I received 2 New volunteers to write inmates.

In May 2025 I wrote 35 letters and received 10 new request during that month for volunteer pen pal . Two of the volunteers ask for Two new pen pals because the ones I gave the did not write.

We still need pen pal for women and men and we could use a couple volunteers for Hispanic inmates who do not read or write in English. I have to translate the letter into English and then my letter from English to Spanish. Keep us in your prayers.

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 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. Checks made out to
"Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry "
Ronald R. Baker, Chaplain
6166 Helens Way, Schuyler, VA 22969-9607

Gifts for **The Bible Reading Outreach Ministry"**
Checks made out to "The Bible Reading Outreach Ministries" address Barbara Holmes 3152 Glenn
Husky Rd Sevierville, TN 37862

Here are a few things pen pals shared with me.

(Psalm 91:2) "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress. My God in Him I trust."

(2Corinthians 6:18) "I will be a Father to you and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."

"A Jewel to Remember"

Hard times, bad times or rough times,
you shall have faith in God.

An Irish Blessing

Wherever you go, whatever you do,
may you be happy.

Life has no remote. So get up and
change it yourself.

Jesus came to bring us hope in the
darkness of circumstances.

The one who died as our substitute
now lives as our advocate.

Faith testing times can be faith strength-
ening times, Oh Brother Ronald.

Christ has replaced the dark door of
death with the shiny gate of life.

"An Irish Toast"

May you live as long as you want and
never want as long as you live.

Thought of the week Brother Ronald:
Make Eternal things your Daily priority.

Small Poem

May the road rise up to meet you

May the wind be always at your back
May the sun shine warm upon your face
And the rain fall soft upon your fields,
And until we meet again
May God hold you in the palm of His
hand.

"You cannot help the poor by destroying
the rich. You cannot strengthen the
weak by weakening the strong. You
cannot bring about prosperity by dis-
couraging thrift. You cannot lift the
wage earner up by pulling the wage
payer down. You cannot further the
brotherhood of man by inciting class
hatred. You cannot build character and
courage by taking away people's initia-
tive and independence. You cannot help
people permanently by doing for them,
what they could and should do for them-
selves."
Abraham Lincoln