



WOMEN IN TRUTH

JAIL MINISTRY

TRAINING

MANUAL

WIT COMMITMENT & GOAL:

To help women reach beyond their circumstances by discovering strength through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Chapter One

WHAT WE BELIEVE

WE ARE WOMEN COMMITTED TO GOD'S TRUTH:

We believe Jesus died on the cross and arose from the grave to pay the penalty for our sins so we could be made "perfectly sin-free in God's eyes." The moment we place our trust in Jesus Christ alone for salvation, our relationship with God begins and we receive the gift of eternal life in heaven followed by a radical change in our life. As scripture tells us,

**"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation;
the old has gone, the new has come!"
(2 Co 5:17)**

Jesus promises,

**"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him
who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment,
but has passed out of death into life."
(John 5:24-25)**

We also believe that true revival in our hearts and righteous daily living comes from the knowledge and revelation of God's Truth in the Bible.

Jesus claims,

**"If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.
Then you will know the truth,
and the truth will set you free."
(John 8:31-32)**

We also believe:

There is one God: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; who subsist in unity, and also as three separate distinct Persons.

Jesus Christ is God's Son. He was born of a virgin as both God and man, lived a sinless life, died to atone for the sins of human beings, was buried, arose from the grave, ascended into heaven and will literally return to earth.

The Holy Spirit is the divine helper, assistant, counselor and instructor and His work is to reveal Christ, convict of sin, lead to repentance, guide believers, comfort, strengthen, and sanctify the soul.

The Bible is God's Holy Word, without error, and is the sole authority for life.

Human beings are the special creations of God, made in His image. They fell through the sin of the first man, Adam, and all human beings are sinners in need of salvation.

Salvation is a gift through faith in Jesus Christ alone. Every person who truly is saved is eternally secure in the Lord Jesus Christ and will spend eternity in heaven, while those who die in their sins will spend eternity in hell.

Each believer has direct access to God through the Lord Jesus Christ.

CHAPTER TWO

PERSONAL PRAYER & PRAYER PARTNERS: The Foundation of the Jail Ministry

The surest way to build a movement that lasts is to build it God's way. And if we want it God's way, we must begin a movement on a living foundation of prayer. History and God's Word make it clear that prayer is more than preparation for the work--it is the work.

What does the Bible say?

"Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance and in everything, by prayer and petition (definite requests), with thanksgiving, continue to make your wants known to God." Philippians 4: 6 (AMP)

Be earnest and unwearied and steadfast in your prayer [life], being [both] alert and intent in [your praying] with thanksgiving. Colossians 4: 2 (AMP)

Confess to one another therefore your faults (your slips, your false steps, your offenses, your sins) and pray [also] for one another, that you may be healed and restored [to a spiritual tone of mind and heart]. The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working]. James 5: 16 (AMP)

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Matthew 7:7-8 (NKJV)

And whatever you ask for in prayer, having faith and [really] believing, you will receive. Matthew 21: 22 (AMP)

The Lord has heard my supplication; the Lord receives my prayer. Psalm 6: 9 (AMP)

Blessed be God, Who has not rejected my prayer nor removed His mercy and loving-kindness from being [as it always is] with me. Psalm 66: 20(AMP)

But certainly God has heard me; He has given heed to the voice of my prayer. Psalm 66: 19 (AMP)

So too the [Holy] Spirit comes to our aid and bears us up in our weakness; for we do not know what prayer to offer nor how to offer it worthily as we ought, but the Spirit Himself goes to meet our supplication and pleads in our behalf..... Romans 8: 26 (AMP)

There's no formula when developing a prayer strategy, and plenty of room for variety. Here are some ideas:

Spend personal time in prayer, taking time to develop your personal prayer life. Prayer must be a priority in your life as a leader before you can call others to make it a priority.

Establish a Prayer Partner Ministry – Invite other Christians to join you as one of your jail ministry prayer partners. (Relatives, friends, church members, co-workers, missionaries, evangelists, pastors, etc.)

I personally organized a “Jail Prayer Warrior team” via email. I contacted them before I went to the jail and when I returned home. However, you may choose to meet personally with your prayer partners, or even do it by phone. Do it whatever way works best for you. Just do it!

BEFORE YOU GO TO THE JAIL:

Notify your prayer team approximately 24 hours before you go with specific requests both personal and for your class session. Suggested prayer requests follow:

- Pray God will prepare the hearts of the women prior to our arrival to be obedient to attend and have ears to listen and understand.
- May the enemy be bound as we go, from every area of this ministry in the Name of Jesus Christ (our home, our preparation, the car,

the hallways of the jail, the classroom, from the women who attend, etc).

- Pray for the officer in charge to have a loving patient spirit, getting our team and the inmates to our room on time.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit to fill you, guiding and directing your words as you lead.
- Pray for your preparation of the Bible lesson at home.
- Pray for your health, if you are not feeling well.
- Pray for the children you leave, as you go.
- Pray for no distractions during the class session.
- Pray every woman who attends will hear and understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ
- Pray ALL lost souls will be saved through the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

AFTER THE JAIL SESSION: Within 24 hours, it will be an absolute blessing to send your group a "Jail Praise Report," adding specific prayer requests for individual inmates as well. They have been interceding for you through their faithful prayers, preparing the way for victory! They are a vital part of the jail ministry and will receive much joy hearing the results of their prayers!

Remember, keep the women inmates' identities confidential; using the first but never a last name. Following is a Praise & Prayer letter via email to my prayer partners in February, 2003 at the Marion County Jail, Ocala, Florida. Although this is a little too long, I wanted you to see how I wrote it "from my heart" and used "descriptive sentences" so my faithful partners would have a good idea of what we experienced.

**Dear Wonderful Prayer Partners,
Nydia and I experienced another blessed time with the Lord at the jail! TEN precious women accepted Jesus Christ for the very first time. Most all the others rededicated their lives. Most importantly, thanks be to God, all "heard the gospel" and now we can leave the results with Him.**

I would like to share one interesting occurrence I noted right away as we entered the "prohibited" area of the jail. Usually we have to wait a minute or so for the steel doors to be opened. The officers in charge, sitting in glassed-in rooms adjacent to the doors and hallways, get a call from the main desk telling them we are coming. Then they have to "visually" see our badges. Only then are they allowed to push the loud "buzzer" which releases and opens the steel door for us to proceed to the next door. For the first time in eight years that I recall, the buzzer sounded and the door opened as we were walking "up to the doors" to walk down the long hallway to the women's pod, no hesitation. I could only praise God for this special favor and mercy, considering our heavy baggage we always carry: a large file box with all our materials and a tape/CD player. Amazingly, this happened again as we approached the classroom and shockingly, again, as I left the other door of the classroom to inquire about getting some trustees to help us set up the room! No question, I knew the evening was going to be great!

As the women entered, it was easy to see hearts were eager and hungry to absorb everything we could possibly share about God. Our officer in charge (on the other side of the window in a tower looking over all areas) was one of the "sweetest ladies in America," bending over backwards to help, even allowing us to go beyond our time by one hour!!! This is a miracle!

There must have been a drug bust or street crack down recently because several of the women were thin, way under nourished with frightened eyes. Some would not even let me give them a hug or shake their hand (usually it is the opposite, they crave a hug)some even could not look me in the eye as they entered. This is unusual. One young girl ran out before the class began.....it is heart breaking to imagine what they have lived through (and are living through in the jail itself).

Praise God the lesson was perfect.....taking the women from the good news of the gospel right into the purposes of Jesus. In Luke

4:18 Jesus explained His purposes, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the "poor;" he hath sent me to heal the "brokenhearted", to preach deliverance to the "captives" and recovering of sight to the "blind," to set at liberty them that are "bruised. "

Amazingly, when I looked out I SAW CLEARLY the poor of spirit, the brokenhearted, the devil's captives, the spiritually blind and the bruised sitting before me!!! The lesson explained the STEPS OF RESTORATION: THE BRUISED, THE BLIND, THE BOUND, THE BROKEN! The broken is one whom God has allowed to be shattered through difficult circumstances to bring a person to the place of forgiveness and healing. You could have heard a pin drop as I shared the lesson.

After all was said and done, an unusual thing began to happen. Women slowly started raising their hands and sharing their testimonies of brokenness. Most ended by saying, "I do not want even my worst enemy to go through what I have gone through." One gave her testimony through poems she had written and memorized; another through her on-going bout with cancer and Hepatitis C. Some testimonies included rape, drugs, and attempted murder on their lives. The last woman stood up and boldly shared how God had blessed her with grace and mercy in court that day.....ending her sentence of many years to just a few months. All applauded and gave thanks to God! Then the perfect ending to our service began when the woman with cancer stood up and asked us to join her as she sang "Amazing Grace." It was beautiful! God is so good. I could never have planned a more meaningful service if I tried in a million years.....Wow!

There is so much to tell and so little time. But I just wanted you to know how awesome and needed your prayers are! All were answered, no question.

**May God Bless You Mightily,
Ann**

CHAPTER THREE

PRIORITIES IN JAIL MINISTRY: WHY DO WE GO?

1. THE LOVE OF CHRIST AND LOVE FOR CHRIST

is the reason why we are in the jail ministry. We answer God's call to serve Him with urgency.

- 2 Cor 5:14 "For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all..."
- 1 Cor 9:16 "Yet when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, for I am compelled to preach (speak). Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!"

2. LOVE FOR INMATES AND STAFF WORKERS

who are God's special children. We should see these people as objects of Christ's love.

- Mark 6:34 "When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things."

3. OBEDIENCE TO THE GREAT COMMISSION:

We are to be Jesus' witnesses to those who live next door, down the street, across town and over the ocean. It is not optional; it is a command from God! Our lives and our words should be a testimony to those with whom we come in contact, from family members and business associates to the clerk at the grocery store or the women at the jail. People all around us need to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ, and we must open our eyes and our hearts to see where God is working and join Him! God has called you to one of His most "forgotten" ministries: the local jail ministry.

- Matthew 28:19-20 "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

- Mark 16:15-16 "He (Jesus) said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."
- Isaiah 52:7 "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"
- Romans 10: 14-15 "How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

4. WE ARE TO BE BOLD WITNESSES FOR JESUS: SHARING THE GOSPEL (GOOD NEWS) OF JESUS CHRIST IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND LEAVING THE RESULTS WITH GOD.

We are to bring the "saving knowledge" to the lost. It is not man who does the "saving" but God. We are merely His messengers and ambassadors for Jesus Christ. We are His witnesses of what He has done in our own lives.

- Luke 24:45-48 Before Jesus ascended, "*... He opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.* He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

MEMORIZE & BE READY TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS
 Jesus died on the cross and rose from the grave to pay the penalty for our sins and to purchase a place in heaven for us which He offers as a free gift. We receive this free gift through faith. Faith is "trusting Jesus Christ alone for salvation."

- All nations must hear before the end will come.

Matthew 24:14 "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come."

- Paul's entire ministry was sharing the Gospel. (Not being a key-note speaker, prayer walking, building churches, giving food, clothing, etc.)

Romans 1:8-9 Paul writes to Rome: "First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. God, whom I serve with my whole heart in preaching the gospel of His Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you"

- Sharing the Gospel should be the main objective of the Christian church.

Romans 1:6 "...All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth."

5. WE ARE TO PERSEVERE - DO NOT GET DISCOURAGED OR GIVE UP!

- Luke 8:15 "But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop."
- James 5:11 "As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy."
- 2 Thess 3:5 "May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance."
- Hebrews 12:1-2 "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."
- Romans 1:16 "I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile."

- 2 Timothy 1:8 “So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God,”

Remember when Jesus was anointed at Bethany by Mary and she was judged and misunderstood. This can happen to those in the Jail Ministry as well. Unfortunately, good intentions can be misunderstood as many in our society do not feel inmates are worthy.

- Matthew 26:6 – 13 “While Jesus was in Bethany in the home of a man known as Simon the Leper, a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, which she poured on his head as he was reclining at the table. When the disciples saw this, they were indignant. “Why this waste?” they asked. ⁹“This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor.”

Aware of this, Jesus said to them, “Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me. The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me. When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. I tell you the truth, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.”

Mary’s act of love was accepted by Christ and criticized by the disciples. Judas called Mary’s worship “waste,” but Jesus said it was a lasting memorial!

Same is true of all the beloved sisters who serve in jail ministry; your acts of love will be rewarded by Jesus Christ one day and are a lasting memorial to Him, our Savior and Lord. There is nothing more vital in our Christian walk than sharing the Gospel with those who are lost, especially those going through trials and suffering.

- Matthew 18:12-14 Jesus told this parable of the Lost Sheep: “What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? And if he finds it, I tell you the truth, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should be lost.”

- Matthew 25:31-46 When Jesus told the parable of the Sheep and the Goats, he said:
Vs 40 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers (and sisters) of mine, you did for me.'

Never get discouraged no matter what the persecution or the distraction. Remember, the enemy is at war with us. He does not want his children to be won for the Lord! He will use many means to try to stop us. There will be many distractions in our home as we prepare to leave, unwanted phone calls, and problems that arise. Let us thank God for our prayer partners who are interceding in prayer for us as we go to serve Him on the battlefield, and let us always stand firm and persevere.

Ephesians 6:10 – 12 “Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”

CHAPTER FOUR

THE JAIL MINISTRY WILL BLESS YOU IN MANY WAYS!

1. You will have a renewed eagerness to learn & be prepared in God's Word.

- Acts 17:11 "Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true."
- 1 Thessalonians 2:13 "And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe."

2. Your prayer life will increase.

Acts 6:4 "and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

3. You will study God's Word accurately and passionately.

- 2 Timothy 2:15 "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth."
- 2 Timothy 4:2 "Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction."

4. Your personal practical sanctification will increase. The state of growing spiritually and being set apart for God's plan and purpose will increase greatly. Your priorities will change. You will discover "serving the Lord to those in great need brings you the greatest blessings and true genuine joy."

2 Timothy 2:21 "If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work."

5. You will come to understand the importance of this work for the Lord: a sense that eternity hangs in the balance.

Each time I enter the jail, I feel a sense of excitement, like I am bringing the greatest Christmas present ever! I also feel a sense of desperation to know the lost will be separated from God forever in hell forever if no one shares the Gospel with them before they die. Therefore, there is no greater fulfillment in ministry than to witness the inmates receiving and accepting God's gift of eternal life in heaven through prayer. It is a life-changing experience not only for them but for jail ministry volunteers as well. It is such a privilege! It will literally light a fire in your heart to be a bolder, more available witness for Christ everywhere you go.

2 Corinthians 5:18-20 "All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God."

CHAPTER FIVE

PRESENTATION IN TEACHING THE WORD OF GOD

Jesus said, "...I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God." Acts 20:26-27

Now it is our turn! Therefore, we are to teach the whole word of God systematically: preaching and teaching salvation and how to walk following God's principles.

Five Parts of the Gospel of Jesus Christ To Learn and Share

1. GRACE

HEAVEN IS A FREE GIFT AND LIKE ANY GIFT, IT IS NOT EARNED OR DESERVED.

"FOR THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH, BUT THE GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL LIFE IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD." ROMANS 6:23

"FOR IT IS BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED, THROUGH FAITH—AND THIS NOT FROM YOURSELVES, IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD—NOT BY WORKS, SO THAT NO ONE CAN BOAST." EPHESIANS 2:8-9

2. MAN

MAN IS A SINNER AND CANNOT SAVE HIMSELF.

"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God," Romans 3:23

The grade to getting into heaven is perfection and we've all fallen short of this.

"Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect." Matt 5:48

"There is a way that seems right to a man (good works, being religious but not having a trusting relationship with Jesus Christ alone), but in the end it leads to death." Proverbs 14:12

3. GOD

GOD HAS TWO ATTRIBUTES THAT STAND OUT.

1. God is loving and merciful and DOESN'T WANT to punish us.

“...God is love.” 1 John 4:8b

2. but God is also just. Therefore, He must punish sin.

“Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished” Ex 34:7b

4. CHRIST

God solved our sin-problem through His Son, Jesus Christ.

1. Who Jesus is: both God and man.

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” John 1:1

“ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth” John 1:14

2. What Jesus did: Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead to pay the penalty for our sins and to purchase a place in heaven for us which He offers as a gift. We receive this gift through faith and trust in Jesus Christ alone.

5. FAITH

Faith is the key to Heaven!

1. What saving faith is not:

- It is not merely knowing the facts of the Bible because even the demons know but obviously aren't saved.
“You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.” James 2:19
- It is not trusting God for temporary things of this world such as health, finances, travel mercies, healing, and etc. as that is a temporary trust and has nothing to do with heaven.
- It is not trusting your “feelings.” “I think I am saved!?”

2. What saving faith is: Trusting Jesus Christ Alone.

What Jesus did on the cross for us is the only reason we are allowed into heaven. When we trust Jesus Christ alone as the only Savior of the world, God forgives our sins and we given the gift of eternal life in Heaven.

“Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—”Acts 16:31

CHAPTER SIX

Important things to teach: GOD'S LOVE – WHAT IS SIN? - REPENTANCE? WHO IS A CHRISTIAN?

1. HOW DO WE KNOW GOD LOVES US?

God loves you very much. He not only sent his Son to die for you, but He left us with many Bible verses to make it perfectly clear that He loves us and we are dear to His heart. What more could He do or give?

Regardless of our circumstances or how we may be feeling, we need to know that God does love us. It is constant. It is unchanging. It is eternal.

Amazingly, as I write this, Roy Lessin emailed me the following devotional:

As a believer, the truth that "God loves you" is something you need to hear often. One of the reasons is because the enemy spends so much time telling you that God doesn't love you. God wants you to both know and believe the love that He has for you. Some know it, but don't believe it.

The truth of God's love for you is the most encouraging, edifying, hope-giving, life-changing truth you will ever know. He loves you in Christ. He loves you through Christ. He loves you by sending Christ, His Son, to die for you. He loves you from the breadth of Christ's obedience, from the length of Christ's mercies, from the depths of Christ's sacrifice, and from the heights of Christ's resurrection and ascension. Could a God who loves you this much, fail you in any way?

Are you someone who struggles with knowing the depths of God's love for you? Let the Holy Spirit begin to sweep over your soul and reveal to you the greatness, the fullness, and the completeness of God's love. Ask Him to open your eyes to see and your heart to know the love of God in ways you have never known or thought possible. And what He shows you, believe it to be so.

Be assured of His love. Rest in His love. Be renewed in His love. Christ came for you. Christ died for you. Christ lives for you. You are greatly loved. This is the good news of the Gospel. This is your good news.

Where will this great love take you? What will it mean to you today and for all your tomorrows? Consider these words from the Apostle Paul...

“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Romans 8:31-34

Encourage others with these scripture verses:

“God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.” Romans 5:9 NLT

“And we have known and believed the love that God has for us.” 1 John 4:16 NKJV

“May Christ through your faith [actually] dwell (settle down, abide, make His permanent home) in your hearts! May you be rooted deep in love and founded securely on love, That you may have the power and be strong to apprehend and grasp with all the saints [God's devoted people, the experience of that love] what is the breadth and length and height and depth [of it]; [That you may really come] to know [practically, through experience for yourselves] the love of Christ, which far surpasses mere knowledge [without experience];” Ephesians 3:17-19 AMP

Romans 8:38-39 “For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Psalm 117:2 “For great is his love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD.”

Ephesians 3:16-19 “I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the

saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.”

Proverbs 8:17 “I love those who love me, and those who seek me find me.”

John 15:13 “Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.”

Jeremiah 31:3 “The LORD appeared to us in the past, saying: “I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness.”

1 Timothy 6:17 “Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.”

1 John 4:16 “And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.”

Psalms 103:11 “For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him...”

Psalms 107:8 “Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men...”

Job 37:13 “He brings the clouds to punish men, or to water his earth and show his love.”

Micah 6:8 “He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”

Psalms 32:10 “Many are the woes of the wicked, but the LORD's unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in him.”

Psalms 138:8 “The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your love, O LORD, endures forever— do not abandon the works of your hands.”

2. WHAT IS SIN? THE BIG QUESTION

We live in a culture where the concept of sin has become entangled in legalistic arguments over right and wrong. When many of us consider "What is sin?" we think of violations of the Ten Commandments. Even then, we tend to think of murder and adultery as "major" sins compared with lying, cursing, or idolatry.

As a young mother, I was invited to attend a church meeting with several of the leaders of our rural Minnesota church. I was in awe of the spiritual maturity I was sitting around until one of the "retired pastors" spoke up. He said, "I really resent the prayer our pastor has us recite each Sunday which asks God to forgive us of our terrible sins." He continued to explain, "You know, I am retired and I feel I do not sin. I invite the neighbors over for lunch often and try to do many good things." At that moment, the Holy Spirit almost burst open my heart and He led me to abruptly say, "I think I know your sin." What had I said!? I was horrified. Everyone whirled around in their chairs and shockingly glared at me. Seeing the reaction of everyone, the retired pastor was very kind and asked, "Please tell me, Ann, what my sin is?" Thus began my short explanation which went something like this: "The Bible tells us all people have sinned. If we claim we do not sin, we make God out to be a liar and this is indeed a sin!" (1 John 1:8-10). Upon hearing this, everyone in the room expressed great relief and were in total agreement!

According to Christian psychologists, every person sins many times a day in thought, word and deed as well as in the things we FAIL TO DO which God has asked us to do. I can be sitting watching my favorite TV show and committing a sin if I neglect to go to church or help a neighbor in need. Face it; we sin often in the little things.

The truth is that sin, as defined in the original translations of the Bible, means "to miss the mark." The mark, in this case, is the standard of perfection established by God and evidenced by Jesus. Viewed in that light, it is clear that we are all sinners.

The Apostle Paul says in Romans 3:23: "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

In light of this, it does no good to compare ourselves to others. We cannot escape our failure to be righteous in our own strength. This is by God's design, because only when we understand our weakness will we consider relying on the atoning sacrifice of Jesus.

What Is Sin - A Biblical Perspective

Sin is mentioned hundreds of times in the Bible, starting with the "original" sin when Adam and Eve ate of the tree of knowledge. Often it seems as if sin is simply the violation of any of God's laws, including the Ten Commandments.

Paul, however, puts this in perspective in Romans 3:20, when he says, "Therefore no one will be declared righteous in His sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin."

God wanted us to recognize our sins. Even those who have not murdered or committed adultery will find themselves convicted of lying, or of worshipping false idols like wealth or power ahead of God.

Tragically, sin in any amount will distance us from God.

"Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor His ear too dull to hear," says Isaiah 59: 1-2. "But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear."

We must resist the temptation to act as if we are righteous, especially by leaning on our good works.

"If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives" (1 John 1:8-10).

What Is Sin - A Call to Repentance

The good news in all of this is that, once we recognize ourselves as sinners, we need only to repent and embrace Jesus to be forgiven. Jesus can forgive us because he died and rose again three days later in victory over sin and death.

The Apostle Paul refers to this process of recognizing sin and being responsible for it as "godly sorrow."

"Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death," Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 7:10-11.

SIN DEFINED: THERE ARE BASICALLY TWO KINDS OF SIN

Sins of Commission: things we actively do in thought, word and deed that are displeasing to God.

Examples: Think a bad thought about someone, use the Lord's name in vain, or get high on alcohol or drugs.

Sins of Omission: things we fail to do for God.

Examples: We watch TV instead of helping a neighbor in need. We fail to do anything to help someone we know is being abused. We fail to open our Bibles and go to church.

All of us have a Book of Life full of major and minor daily sins which require "Separation from God for eternity in Hell." Thank God, He knew we would sin so provided a solution for our sin-problem: Jesus Christ, the Messiah, who came to take away the sins of the world!!!

3. WHAT IS REPENTANCE?

Re-pent verb =to be sorry, to turn from sin and dedicate oneself to change in one's life, to feel regret or contrition, to change one's mind.

To repent is to agree with God that we have sinned, have sincere remorse, and turn from the old sinful ways to a new abundant life in and through Jesus Christ.

- 2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"
- Acts 20:21 "I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus."
- Luke 13:3 "I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."
- 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10 "for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath."

Both John the Baptist and Jesus' first sermons started with the command, "Repent!" True salvation involves agreeing with God about the sin in our life and turning from it.

- Matthew 3:1-3 "In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."
- Matthew 4:17-18 " From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

Repent Or Perish?

One of the hardest things for men and women to do is to repent of their sins. Repentance is a direct challenge to man's will power. It demands that he humble himself before God, and give up everything that is contrary to his will. The holy demands of repentance have kept many of the high-minded out of the kingdom of God.

Repentance is a duty imposed upon all mankind. It is a plain command of God, and no man can refuse to repent without bearing the responsibility that must come upon him. When Jesus gave the world-wide commission, He said, "That repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations . . . (Luke 24:47). Paul said that, "God now commandeth all men everywhere to repent" (Acts 17:30). **Can anyone read these scriptures and conclude that he can be saved without repentance? Surely not!**

4. WHO IS A CHRISTIAN?

Today more than 400 sects and denominations call themselves "Christian." About 30% of the world's population call themselves Christian (2 billion people), 20% call themselves Muslim (1.3 billion people), 15% are non-religious (1 billion) and 13% call themselves Hindu.

A dictionary definition of a Christian would be something similar to "a person professing belief in Jesus as the Christ or in the religion based on the teachings of Jesus." While this is a good starting point, like many dictionary definitions, it falls somewhat short of really communicating the biblical truth of what it means to be a Christian.

The word "Christian" is used three times in the New Testament (Acts 11:26; 26:28; 1 Peter 4:16). Followers of Jesus Christ were first called "Christians" in Antioch (Acts 11:26) because their behavior, activity, and speech were like Christ. **The word "Christian" literally means, "belonging to the party of Christ" or a "follower of Christ."**

However, Jesus Christ warns, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness'" (Matthew 7:21–23).

Could it be that they do not really understand what Christianity is all about? Could it be that, even though **millions are heavily involved in "churchianity,"** they do not really grasp—or live by—the plain, clear teachings of Christ?

Unfortunately over time, the word "Christian" has lost a great deal of its significance and is often used of someone who is religious or has high moral values but who may or may not be a true follower of Jesus Christ. Many people who do not believe and trust in Jesus Christ consider themselves Christians simply because they go to church or they live in a "Christian" nation. But going to church, serving those less fortunate than you, or being a good person does not make you a Christian. **Going to church does not make you a Christian anymore than going to a garage makes you an automobile.** Being a member of a church, attending services regularly, and giving to the work of the church does not make you a Christian.

The Bible teaches that the good works we do cannot make us acceptable to God. Titus 3:5 says, "He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit." So, a Christian is someone who has been born again by God (John 3:3; John 3:7; 1 Peter 1:23) and has put faith and trust in Jesus Christ. Ephesians 2:8 tells us that it is "...by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God."

A true Christian is a person who has put faith and trust in the person and work of Jesus Christ, including His death on the cross as payment for sins and His resurrection on the third day.

John 1:12 tells us, "Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God."

The mark of a true Christian is love for others and obedience to God's Word (1 John 2:4, 10). A true Christian is indeed a child of God, a part of God's true family, and one who has been given new life in Jesus Christ.

The Bible tells us: "Whoever claims to live in Him must walk as Jesus did." 1 John 2:6

CHAPTER SEVEN

HOW TO BE AN EFFECTIVE JAIL MINISTER

1. ALWAYS GIVE YOUR BEST QUALITY MESSAGE ORRECTLY HANDLING THE SCRIPTURES IN A SYSTEMATIC WAY

Scripture says that the truth of God's word sets Christians apart from the rest of humanity (Jn.17:17)! It should be a much-used manual for truly Christian living for in it we have ALL that we need to know about God and about a walk worthy of His calling (Rom.8:14).

2 Timothy 3:16-17 "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

And, just as we must be careful of our daily diet to provide the needed nourishment for good physical health, we must take even more special care to make sure we get the correct *spiritual* diet we need. We have to handle Scripture with reverence and careful precision, noting contexts, and faithfully applying what is directed at us. This entails painstaking dedication and hard work. Scripture directs us to, therefore,

2 Timothy 2:15 "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth."

2 Timothy 1:13 "What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus."

The day I started in Jail Ministry almost 20 years ago, I was invited to observe a jail service before I was given my own class. I will never forget that day as long as I live! I later discovered the woman minister I was to observe believed that the "Holy Spirit would just guide her words as she opened the Bible without any previous preparation."

I don't deny God can do this as all things are possible with God. In fact, before I lead a jail service I always pray "May the Holy Spirit fill me and speak His words through me." However, scripture definitely instructs teachers of God's Word to be prepared and teach in an orderly manner. Following is my very first experience in the jail ministry.

Approximately 50 lady inmates arrived in the class room and were very eager to hear God's message! As instructed, I sat in the back of the room watching and observing. I watched the lady minister lead in worship songs and then open her Bible, randomly picking out a Bible verse. With enthusiasm, she explained how this verse could be applied to our lives, **for about 5 minutes!** The lady inmates and I waited with great expectancy for more but she had finished. She then introduced me and shockingly invited me to share a message!

Thank God, I had previously been equipped and trained in Evangelism Explosion, a 16 week witness training program. I nervously stepped up to the podium to a thunderous applause by the inmates. I quickly said a prayer asking the Holy Spirit to "fill me and speak through me, with every word glorifying God." For the next 30 minutes, I shared the Good News of Jesus Christ.

I systematically followed an outline I had learned with dozens of scriptures and illustrations I had memorized to make the Gospel of salvation clear and understandable.

At the end of my message, I asked the inmates, "Does this make sense to you?" Everyone shouted back "Yes!" I then asked, "Would you like to know for sure you have received forgiveness of your sins and the gift of eternal life in heaven when you die?" Again, there was a positive response. I lead in a prayer and witnessed every single inmate verbally committing their lives to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord! What a glorious first experience I had in the jail ministry that blessed day. God, the Holy Spirit, had spoken through me, guiding my every word.

Following this landslide of professions of faith, the stunned lady minister later asked me, "How did you do this?" I shared with her that I believed a great part of it was that **"God had truly blessed my preparation."**

Someone once said:

"The strength of a teacher's lesson will rarely exceed his organization and preparation. If the teacher only read the lesson through quickly without paying much attention, his teaching will undoubtedly reflect that. If, however, the teacher has worked hard to understand the lesson thoroughly, and if he has organized it well and written out a good teaching plan, his teaching will improve as a result.

We should always be seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit. From time to time, even after the teacher has completed his lesson plans, the Spirit will tell him at the last minute or even in the course of teaching to leave the lesson plan and do something that God will show him then and there. We should, of course, always be sensitive to listen to what God is telling us, and we must always do what He is leading us to do.

God can change our lesson plans! However, what is to stop the Holy Spirit from leading us at the time we are making out our lesson plans? He can surely lead us then just as well as later, if we ask His help as we prepare our lessons. It can be overplayed, however, and become a spiritual sounding but sinful excuse for laziness in preparation. So the teacher should pray earnestly, prepare thoroughly, and always obey God's voice."

2. ALWAYS CLOSE YOUR MESSAGE WITH AN INVITATION TO PRAY THE BELIEVER'S PRAYER.

Why? For one reason or another, you may never see these inmates again. God's Word tells us today may be a lost soul's day of salvation! Don't wait. Don't play God. Do what He says. If even one person desires to commit their lives to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, lead them in prayer.

God knows every heart and is not so concerned with the words as He is with the **attitude of a heart**.

2 Corinthians 6:2 "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." **I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation."**

The "prayer of salvation" is the most important prayer we'll ever pray. When we're ready to become a Christian, we're ready to have our first real conversation with God, and these are its components:

- **We acknowledge that Jesus Christ is God**; that He came to earth as a man in order to live the sinless life that we cannot live; that He died in our place, so that we would not have to pay the penalty we deserve.
- **We confess our past life of sin** -- living for ourselves and not obeying God.

- **We admit we are ready to trust Jesus Christ** as our Savior and Lord.
- **We ask Jesus to come into our heart**, take up residence there, and begin living through us.

A Sample of a Salvation Prayer for a new believer:

"Father, I know that I have broken your laws and my sins have separated me from you. I am truly sorry, and now I want to turn away from my past sinful life toward you. Please forgive me, and help me avoid sinning again. I believe that your son, Jesus Christ died for my sins, was resurrected from the dead, is alive, and hears my prayer. I invite Jesus to become the Lord and Savior of my life, to rule and reign in my heart from this day forward. Please send your Holy Spirit to help me obey You, and to do Your will for the rest of my life. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen."

Luke 15:7 "... there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent."

3. DRESS MODESTLY (DON'T BE A DISTRACTION)

Be an example of a believer. Don't offend or stumble the authorities or inmates.

One day as I arrived at the jail one Sunday afternoon, another woman minister, who had just finished speaking to a group of inmates, stopped to greet me in the hallway momentarily. She was wearing a gorgeous purple suit, a large purple hat, high heeled shoes and multitudes of flashy jewelry. I asked myself, "I wonder how the inmates related to her message?"

We truly need to dress respectful of our position as a minister of Jesus Christ at the jail. I personally do not think the Lord wants me to wear sloppy jeans and a sweat shirt nor does he want me to dress like I am going to the Kentucky Derby! I want the inmates to listen to the message and not focus on what I am wearing.

Years ago as an EE Teacher/Trainer, I accompanied two church deacons on an EE church visit. Unbelievably, both deacons wore old looking jeans and sweat shirts. When we knocked at the door of a

widow, her frightened face said it all! She refused to open the door all the way and of course, did not believe the men were from a church! She was scared to death of the two men who truly looked like hoodlums. I didn't blame her one bit!

- 1 Corinthians 9:19-22 " Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some."
- 1 Timothy 2:9-10 "I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety..... but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God."

4. DON'T SPEAK OVER THEIR HEADS

Keep your message on their level, short and understandable.

1 Corinthians 14:9 "So it is with you. Unless you speak intelligible words with your tongue, how will anyone know what you are saying?.."

5. MAKE THE WORD OF GOD BOTH INTERESTING AND UNDERSTANDABLE THROUGH VARIED METHODS & OBJECT LESSONS.

Always have new methods of teaching approved by the officer in charge.

- A. Videos & DVD's
- B. Overhead projections, chalkboard, flannel graph presentations
- C. Praise and Worship: use small CD player for music
- D. Use personal testimonies and illustrations

CHAPTER EIGHT

FOLLOW-UP: WHAT HAPPENS AFTER YOU LEAVE THE JAIL?

“What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? what good is it?” James 2:14-16

TEN WAYS TO FOLLOW-UP:

1. MAKE SURE EVERY LADY INMATE HAS A BIBLE.

- We recommend a large print version she can easily understand. (Such as NIV, NLV & NKJV)
- In order to receive a Bible, most jails require the inmate puts in a request into the Chaplain or Officer in Charge.
- Often a Kiosk is available in the cell block area for these messaging purposes.

2. PREPARE A BIBLE STUDY OUTLINE of your message. Add extra notes for the inmates to keep and continue studying during the week.

3. PRAYER FOR SPECIFIC INMATES AND THEIR NEEDS.

1 Timothy 2:1-4 “I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—.... This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth.”

4. HOSPITALITY

Extend a warm welcome and invitation to the inmates and their families to come to your church when they are released.

- **Share a church testimony:** How has being a part of a church family changed your life and benefited your walk with the Lord?
- **Insert on the top of your Bible Study Outline,** your church name, address and phone number.
- **List the times of the Worship Services and Bible Studies all through the week.**
- **Offer transportation information.**

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25 – 37 “On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”
26 “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?”

27 He answered: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

28 "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

29 But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?""

30 In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. 31 A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. 32 So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. 34 He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. 35 The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

36 "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

37 The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

5. GIVE AN APPLICATION FOR AN ADVANCED BIBLE STUDY BY MAIL

such as Crossroads Bible Institute.

<http://www.crossroadbible.org/>

Crossroad Bible Institute equips the church to disciple people in jail & prison with the Word of God, free of charge, wherever they are incarcerated. It is a personal, in-depth and long-term program that is uniquely designed to help incarcerated persons grow dramatically in a life-transforming relationship with Jesus Christ, preparing them for and assisting them in successful reentry upon release.

To receive an inmate application:

<http://www.crossroadbible.org/PDFs/BLANK%20Enrollment.pdf>

6. SEND AN ENCOURAGING LETTER TO THE NEW BELIEVERS.

7. BRING YOUR CLASS A WIT NEWSLETTER.

8. BEGIN A WOMEN'S SUNDAY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CLASS specifically designed for women in need. Besides those who have been incarcerated, other women from the church and community who need a class such as this will also join: single, divorced, widowed, women with a non-Christian husband, those over-coming addictions, abused, hurting, lonely, etc. Also, there will be women who feel called to serve in this women's ministry.
See: www.womenintruth.org

9. WIT HOME

As the jail ministry grows, your church may consider sponsoring a **WIT HOME with a 9 month – 2 year Spiritual Rehabilitation Program.” This is not a temporary home or an over-night motel.** This is church-sponsored home for released Christian women inmates who are sincerely ready to leave the old people, places and things behind and begin a new life following Jesus Christ. Their goal is to become an employed, responsible citizen who eventually restores her life, children and home through a spiritual rehabilitation program within a loving church family. For more information: www.womenintruth.org

10. JAIL PEN PAL MENTORING MINISTRY

See: www.womenintruth.org

CHAPTER NINE

SIX PRINCIPLES IN SERVING THE LORD

1. THIS IS GOD'S MINISTRY – NOT YOURS OR MINE!

God gets all the glory. God supplies the strength through the Holy Spirit, but you must appropriate it.

- 2 Corinthians 2:14 "But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him
- 2 Corinthians 3:5 "Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God."
- 2 Corinthians 4:7 "But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us."

2. DEVELOP YOUR JAIL MINISTRY LESSON PLANS ASKING THE HOLY SPIRIT TO LEAD AND GUIDE YOU.

- "For it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you." Matt 10:20
- "for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say." Luke 12:12

3. IF YOU ARE RELYING ON THE SPIRIT OF GOD, YOU WILL NOT BURN OUT.

- 2 Corinthians 4:1 "Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart."

4. BE A LOVING HELPER, NOT A DICTATORIAL AUTHORITY.

- 2 Corinthians 1:24 "Not that we lord it over your faith, but we work with you for your joy, because it is by faith you stand firm."
- 2 Corinthians 12:14 "Now I am ready to visit you for the third time, and I will not be a burden to you, because what I want is not your possessions but you."
- 1 Thessalonians 2:7 "but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children."
- 1 Thessalonians 2:8 "We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us."

- Hebrews 13:3 "Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering."

5. YOUR BEHAVIOR BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE FACILITY MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH THE MESSAGE YOU PROCLAIM.

- 1 Corinthians 4:2 "Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful."
- 2 Corinthians 8:21 "For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of men."
- 1 Thessalonians 1:5 "because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake."
- 1 Thessalonians 2:3-5 "For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. On the contrary, we speak as men approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts. You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed—God is our witness."
- 1 Thessalonians 2:10 "You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed."

6. YOU MUST SEEK THE APPROVAL OF GOD – EXCLUSIVELY!

- 1 Corinthians 4:4 " My **conscience** is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me."
- 2 Corinthians 4:2 "Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's **conscience** in the sight of God."
- 2 Corinthians 5:9 "So we make it our goal to please Him....."

CHAPTER TEN

GENERAL JAIL RULES & REGULATIONS

for Religious Volunteers

1. Chain of Command

If you have a problem or question, speak to:

- A. Director in charge of the WIT Jail Team
- B. Jail Chaplain or Officer in Charge

2. Inmate Confidentiality Policies

- A. Do not recommend an attorney or bondsman.
Tell inmates to use the yellow pages.
- B. Their uniform represents their crime:
Blue: Misdemeanor Offense

Orange: Felony Offense

Red: High-risk inmate (dangerous)
- C. Criminal records: Do not ask them their crime.
- D. Keep all personal discussions and information about inmates confidential.
- E. Anything that happens in the jail, good or bad, is not public information. Be careful to keep everything confidential and go through the "chain of command" if you have concerns. It is best to put them in writing.

3. Contraband (forbidden items) not to be brought in

- A. No pens, pencils, paper clips, staples, etc.
Inmates are issued narrow pliable pens only.
All items brought must be approved by the chaplain or officer in charge first.
- B. Team leader places copies of everything taught in the chaplain's or officer in charge's mail box prior to leaving for his records.
- C. Jail Assistants can bring items such as their personal Bible, tissues, cough drops, eye glasses.
- D. Team Leader carries a small CD/Tape player (if approved). and a small bag with song sheets, DVD's, videos and all teaching supplies including copies of lesson and forms for inmates. This may have to be

inspected each time for security reasons. (Some jails provide their own CD play, TV/Video.)

- E. Do not bring loose car keys, purses; anything that can be stolen or used as a weapon. If you have keys, they should be carefully enclosed **in the supply** box or kept at the front reception desk. Otherwise, we will lock all unnecessary items in the car.
- F. Wear clothes that will help you represent Jesus Christ in a most respectful way. (Non-revealing: long skirt or slacks with blouse and blazer or sweater. Low, comfortable shoes.)
- G. Do not wear distracting ornate jewelry such as long necklaces and earrings. We want inmates to focus on our words for Christ, not how fashionable we are!

4. Sign In and Sign Out

- A. All jail workers should visibly wear a 'Religious Volunteer Badge' which contains the name of the detention center, your name and picture. This involves a process of turning in a completed application, receiving an approved background check, being fingerprinted and having a picture taken.
- B. Sign in, in the visiting minister's book.
- C. Sign out when you leave.

5. Restrooms

- A. There are rest rooms near the front desk when you arrive.
- B. After we leave the lobby area, you will have no access to a restroom.
- C. Only in an emergency can we return to the restroom. I suggest you do not eat or drink much on the day you go to the jail!

6. Emergency Procedures

- A. Officer's always carry phones.
- B. "Code Blue" means there is a fire, fight, etc. Stand next to wall as officers will be coming and running fast.
- C. "Code Red" means you will be asked to leave (unless it is an exercise.)
- D. "Lock Down" means all prisoners are in cells. Only one officer is left per pod and the rest go to the emergency.
- E. "Hostage or riot situation" means you are held captive by an inmate or inmates.

- 1) Tell the inmate whatever you need to tell her and promise her anything to get away.
- 2) A Lieutenant will try to negotiate.
- 3) A hostage (swat) team will come and will use water, tear gas, or bullets to release you or stop a riot.
- 4) Should tear gas be used, hit the floor and climb underneath bunk or desk.
- 5) In a riot, the power is shut off.
- 6) Remember that this is very rare, but you need to be informed.

7. WHAT WE CAN EXPECT FROM THE INMATES

INMATE HISTORY: For most women inmates, jail is a devastating experience. They have recently been arrested, have not been to trial, and do not know their fate. They are concerned about their families they left behind, mainly children. At this point in their lives, they are repentant, humbly seeking change and hope in their life. This is a perfect opportunity to help women in great spiritual need.

THE INDIFFERENT, cold repeat offenders, who attend our services, also need to know Jesus Christ! Never dismiss the hardened or even those who appear to be lesbians. Remember *every lady* who attends our service is not an accident but a divine appointment. This is God's ministry and we are merely joining Him. The Holy Spirit is in the business of changing hearts. We should consider every woman special as each lady has answered God's call to attend. Remember the thief on the cross was the first one to follow Jesus to heaven! The apostle Paul was a murderer of Christians before he met Jesus Christ!

8. OUR MINISTRY GOALS

JAIL IS AN EVANGELISTIC MINISTRY.

A. OUR MAIN GOAL IS TO BRING THE GOOD NEWS OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST and give the lost an opportunity to accept Christ as their personal Savior. We also give the backslidden an opportunity to re-dedicate their lives back to Christ. This is our main objective. Keep this foremost in your mind at all times. We are here to lead them to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ so they can overcome the enemy's strongholds by discovering strength through a relationship with Jesus Christ. Change will rarely happen in their life unless they

do! They could become repeat offenders when they are released if they do not have a Christ-like conscious and Christ's strength and perseverance to follow His path in their lives.

B. SECONDLY, WE NEED TO INTRODUCE THEM TO GOD'S LOVE LETTER, THE BIBLE, which will teach them how to follow Jesus as their Lord and Master. We are not here to preach at them, be the judge or demonstrate we are a Biblical expert! We accurately teach God's Word and principles which will show them how to lead a new abundant changed life, giving up the old ways. Stressing repentance is very important. They must agree that they have broken God's laws, have sinned and are sorry. They must be ready and committed to turn from the old ways and follow God's will in their life. Only then can they expect to have true peace and joy in their lives.

C. OUR PERSONAL TESTIMONY

At all times, we are here to demonstrate to the prisoners, the unconditional love of Jesus in and through our life. Sharing parts of our own life story is an essential tool. All of us were once lost so have a "before" and "after" part of our testimony. We are Ambassadors for Christ, not social workers, not troubleshooters.

D. JAIL MINISTRY GUIDE LINES

- 1) Do not attack or be critical of other religious groups.
- 2) Set forth a positive message of the Gospel.
- 3) Edify the inmate and refuse to agree to negative criticism that you will hear.
- 4) Do not heed criticism of officers, the administration, or the chaplain by inmates. This has no place in your ministry.
- 5) Do not try to settle disputes between others.
- 6) Do not give anything, and that means anything, to the inmates, other than what has been approved by the Chaplain or officer in charge.
- 7) Warning! The inmates will ask you to get and do all sorts of things for them. Do not be deceived into their "sympathy" con games. Do not make promises you can't keep. Turn the conversation quickly into a personal prayer and avoid long conversations.
- 8) Do not play favorites with the inmates! All the inmates have spiritual needs and need to be ministered to. You are not here for social visiting. Inmates have a visitor list for social visitors. Please do not lose sight in your purpose for being here.

- 9) Do not argue with inmates over religion or enter into long theological debates. Stick with your original purpose for being here.
- 10) Cooperate with the Officers in the Pod. They are in charge and have a job to do. When in doubt, don't do it. Ask first. Do not take anything for granted.
- 11) Please teach "Salvation of Grace Through Faith alone." Leave all other denominational doctrine at home.
- 12) Wear a watch! Keep to the allotted time schedule! Your ministry will be serious trouble if you do not!
- 13) The Jail Team must be promptly on time and at the front desk at the designated time. You will walk to your classroom together. Once the prisoners begin to arrive in the room, the door cannot be opened and team members are not allowed to be admitted. If you come late, you will not be allowed to join the team.

BEGIN TO WORK ON YOUR OWN PERSONAL TESTIMONY

I. EXAMPLE OF A PERSONAL TESTIMONY: ADULT CONVERSION LIKE PAUL **THREE PARTS:**

Before I received eternal life

“There was a time in my life when although I’d gone to church faithfully, I still somehow didn’t know for sure that I had eternal life. Instead, I had a terrifying fear of death. One time at a family funeral I was so grief stricken, I didn’t think life would ever be the same and I lost all hope.”

Then I received eternal life

“Shortly after this time, I recall being invited to my friend’s church in which there was a special guest evangelist speaker. I was reluctant to go at first and almost dreaded the thought. However, I did go and I amazingly ended up listening to every word. It was then that I received eternal life.”

Now that I have eternal life

“I am no longer terrified of death and dying. Life is wonderful and I live without fear. I have new hope and courage to face each day. I will never forget the next family funeral I attended. I was actually happy to know my family member was going to heaven. And best of all, I now know for sure when I die I am going to heaven too!”

May I ask you a question?

“Have you come to the place in your life where you know for certain if you were to die today you would go to heaven or is that something you would say you’re still working on?”

II. EXAMPLE OF A PERSONAL TESTIMONY: CHILDHOOD CONVERSION

Do not use a childhood conversion experience with adults. If you do, leave out the details of your age as it will be intimidating.

"I am glad that I know I have eternal life. One day I was almost in a near fatal car accident. Trying to stop my car for a pedestrian walking across a busy freeway, my car skidded and spun out of control and began to roll over. At that very moment, I had no fear of dying as I knew that if I died I would go to heaven. How about you? Have you come to the place..."

III. EXTRA HELPS IN GIVING YOUR TESTIMONY:

1. Don't over-stress the "before" section. Rather highlight what you have gained, the positive benefits of abundant life here and now.
2. Speak pictorially: use picturesque language so that people can visualize what you are talking about.
3. Identify with your prospects: select truthful statements about yourself that will help see themselves in you.
4. Avoid Christian words such as "born again," "blood of the lamb," "saved," "altar," "hallelujah," "Praise the Lord," etc.

PERSONAL TESTIMONY WORK SHEET

1. "BEFORE I HAD ETERNAL LIFE"

Pick one example that demonstrated your lack of faith then.

Examples: loneliness, strife, guilt, fear of death, weakness, emptiness, rejection, fear of failure, depression, rebellion, insecurity, unloving, etc

Write it here:

Give an interesting illustration from your life that demonstrated this:

2. "THEN I RECEIVED ETERNAL LIFE."

How and where did you hear, understand and receive the Gospel?
Examples: during a crusade, a friend shared with me, at a church service, while listening to the radio, a pastor visiting my home, etc.
Be brief and factual. Do not go into the gospel yet!

Write it here:

3. "NOW THAT I HAVE ETERNAL LIFE..."

Show the new you compared to the old self!

Create a thirst for your listener to hear the gospel!

Use an opposite example of Number 1:
(such as emptiness vs purpose, guilt vs freedom, depression vs hope)

Good Examples: friendliness, love, freedom, courage, strength, purpose, acceptance, fulfillment, hope, obedience, security

Write it here:

Give an encouraging illustration that demonstrates this in your life:

Conclude by saying, "Best of all I know for sure that when I die I will go to heaven! How about you? Do you know for sure?"

WITNESSING SCRIPTURES

1 John 5:13 I write these things to you ...so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Eph 2:8-9 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast.

Romans 3:23 ...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.....

Matthew 5:48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Prov 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man but in the end it leads to death.

James 2:10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.

1 John 4:8b God is Love.

Exodus 34:7b Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished...

John 1:1,14 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us...full of grace and truth.

Isaiah 53:6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

James 2:19 You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that and shudder.

Acts 16:31 Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved....

Rev 3:20 Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.

John 6:47 I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life.

THE GOSPEL PRESENTATION

THE GOSPEL (5 Parts)

1. Grace

1. Heaven is a free gift (Romans 6:23)
2. It is not earned or deserved (Ephesians 2:8-9)

2. Man

1. Man is a sinner (Romans 3:23)
Sin Defined (Matthew 5:48)
2. Cannot save himself (Proverbs 14:12)

3. God

1. Is merciful - therefore He does not want to punish us (1 John 4:8b)
2. Is just - therefore He must punish sin (Exodus 24:7b)

4. Christ

1. Who He is - both God and man (John 1: 1, 14)
John 20:28 (Thomas)
2. What He did: Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead to pay the penalty for our sins and to purchase a place in heaven for us which He offers as a gift.

Record Book of Sin (Isaiah 53:6)

Tetelestai: It is finished. The debt has been paid in full.

5. FAITH - The Key To Heaven!

1. What saving faith is not:
 - a. Head knowledge
The Demons - James 2:19

- b. Faith for temporary needs
 - c. Emotional experience
2. What saving faith is:
- a. Trusting Jesus Christ alone for eternal life. Acts 16:31
 - b. The Chair
 - c. Motive for Godly Living

COMMITMENT

1. Qualifying Question: Does this make sense to you?
2. Commitment Question: Would you like to receive the gift of eternal life?
3. Clarification of Commitment: Since this is the most important decision in your life so I would like to explain what this will mean to you.
 - a. Transfer your trust
 - b. Receive the resurrected and living Christ
 - c. Receive Christ as Savior – Rev 3:20
 - d. Receive Christ as Lord
 - e. Repent
4. Prayer of Commitment

If that is what you really want, I can lead us in prayer and we can tell God what you just now told me.

Another sample prayer:

Lord Jesus, I need you.

Thank you for dying on the cross and paying the price for my sins.

Thank you for rising from the dead and are alive right now!

I believe you are the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

I believe you are the only way to heaven, the only way to the Father.

**And right now, as an act of my will, by faith and trust in You,
I open the door of my life and receive you as my Savior and Lord.**

Thank you for forgiving me of my sins!

Thank you for giving me the gift of eternal life in heaven!

**Please Jesus, take control of my life right now and have mercy on
me.**

Show me your will

Teach me your Word.

Guide me by your Holy Spirit.

**Take the throne of my life, Lord Jesus, and make me the kind of
person you want me to be.**

In your holy and precious Name I pray,

Amen

ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

I would like for you to read something that Jesus says about what you have just done.

John 6:47

Welcome to the Family of God!

IMMEDIATE FOLLOW-UP:

Next Step: Like a baby, we need spiritual milk to grow.

Five Means of Spiritual Growth

1. Bible: Begin with the Book of John.
2. Prayer: Spend time each day in prayer talking to God.
3. Worship: Worship regularly in a church that teaches you the Bible.

Baptism: is the sign that believers give to the world regarding their personal relationship to God through Jesus Christ. Although it doesn't save you, we are commanded to be baptized.

The Lord's Supper: Jesus gave instructions to the disciples that the Lord's Supper was to be practiced, "in remembrance of me." The bread reminds us of His physical body that was wounded for us. The cup we drink reminds us of His blood He shed for us.

4. Fellowship: with Christians who will help you grow in faith.
Hebrews 10:24 "...spur one another on toward love and good deeds."
5. Witness: Be a Witness for Jesus by telling others what Jesus Christ means to you!

SAMPLE JAIL LESSONS

BASICS OF GOD'S GREAT PLAN OF SALVATION

What every Christian should know and understand.

This material should be taught in sections.

1. THE BIBLE

GOD'S DESCRIPTION OF HIS WORD:

2 Timothy 3:16

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness..."

Hebrews 4:12,13

12 "For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

ULTIMATE PURPOSE OF THE BIBLE:

God provides a way for each person to receive the gift of eternal through Jesus Christ, living forever in heaven. This is the "Gospel", the "Good News" of salvation! The purpose of the Bible is for every person to understand, accept and receive the gift of eternal life, heaven forever.

1 John 5:13 "I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life."

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

2. MAN'S DESTINY

JUDGMENT DAY

Romans 14:10-12 "10 You, then, why do you judge your brother? Or why do you look down on your brother? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. 11 It is written: "As surely as I live," says the Lord, "every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God." 12 So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God."

2 Corinthians 5:10 "10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad."

Hebrews 9:27 "27 Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment..."

TWO EXITS OUT OF THIS WORLD

Matthew 7:13,14 Jesus said, "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. 14 But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads **to life, and only a few find it.**"

3. NEW BIRTH

A) Read the conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus:

John 3:1-7

"Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him."

In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."

“How can a man be born when he is old?” Nicodemus asked.
“Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb to be born!”

Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

Flesh give birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ ”

B) WHO IS JESUS AND WHAT RIGHT DOES HE HAVE TO SAY THIS?

John 1:1-3,14

"1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning.

3 Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made.

14 The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

4. GOD: THE CREATOR

A) God created heaven and earth

Genesis 1:1 " In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

B) God created man and woman, Adam and Eve: perfect, sinless, innocent

Genesis 2:7,20-22

"7 the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

20 So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field.

But for Adam no suitable helper was found. 21 So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. 22 Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man."

C) God demonstrated His love to them

- God dwelt within them
- God filled their soul with joy and peace
- God fulfilled all their needs
- God instituted marriage for human companionship and as helpmates to one another.

Genesis 2:23-25 "The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man. 24 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. 25 The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame."

D) Adam and Eve showed their love for God

- through obedience
- through tree of knowledge of good and evil

Genesis 2:15-17 "The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."

5. SIN ENTERED THE WORLD

Satan tempted Adam and Eve with deception and lies.

Genesis 3:1-5 "Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

Because Adam and Eve disobeyed:

1. sin entered their heart
2. sin separated them from God
3. they died spiritually, not physically

This personally affects you and me.

1. Adam and Eve are the roots of human race.
2. Every person in the world is fruit from their root. We inherit their sinful nature and are at enmity with God.

6. HUMAN HEART CHANGED WITH THE ORIGINAL SIN

A. Replaced God with "S I N"

Now our heart focuses on what "I want" not what "God wants."

In thought, word, and actions we sin daily breaking the Ten Commandments.

All people have sinned.

Romans 3:23 "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"

B. Man's 3-fold problem:

1. Problem No. 1 - Bad Heart

Psalm 14:1-3 "The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."
They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good. 2 The LORD looks down from heaven on the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God. 3 All have turned aside, they have together become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one."

Matthew 15:16-20 "Are you still so dull? Jesus asked them. 17 "Don't you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body? 18 But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man 'unclean.' 19 For out of the heart come evil thought, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander. 20 These are what make a man 'unclean', but eating with unwashed hands does not make him 'unclean.'"

2. Problem No. 2 - Bad Record

1 Corinthians 6:9,10

"Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God."

Galatians 5:19-21

"The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God."

3. Problem No. 3 - No Power

a) To change nature of heart

b) To make payment for sins

7. CHRIST: GOD'S SOLUTION TO CHANGE US!

A. Provided by God to save us from our sinful selves.

B. His work

1. Lived a perfect life
2. Paid for your sins
3. Made peace with God for you
4. Changes nature of your heart
5. Is the only way to make things right with God

John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

6. His blood washes you and you wear a robe of righteousness.
7. Christ died for the ungodly.

Romans 5:6 "You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly."

8. While still sinners, Christ died for us, was humiliated for us, and crucified for us.

Romans 5:8 "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

9. As God's enemies, we can be restored as a Child of God through the blood of Jesus Christ!

Romans 5:9,10 "Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! 10 For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!"

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

10. Heaven is a free gift!

It cannot be earned or deserved!

Ephesians 2:8-9 "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith— and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast."

8. ETERNAL LIFE: HOW DO WE RECEIVE IT?

A. Received through repentance: change direction

Turn from trusting our sinful self to Christ only for "all things"

Luke 13:3 Jesus said, "I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

B. Received through faith:

What it is not:

- mere intellectual agreement with the Bible
- temporary prayers
- emotional experience

What it is: trusting Jesus Christ alone (and what He did on the cross for us) as full payment of sin

C. Results of faith: Reconciled as God's Child

1. God forgives our sin.
2. God gives us the gift of eternal life in heaven.
3. We are born again spiritually into God's family.
4. The Holy Spirit comes to indwell our hearts with God's direction.
5. We become a new creature.

2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

9. Can I receive God's forgiveness and the gift of eternal life right now, just as I am?

Absolutely!

God says "Now is the Day of Salvation!" (2 Cor. 6:2)

- A. Trust in Jesus Christ as the only way to salvation.
- B. Prayer of Commitment: Go to the Lord in prayer and invite Him into your heart!

Romans 10:9 "That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

John 6:47 "I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life."

RECOMMENDED JAIL/PRISON MINISTRY RESOURCES

NIV Bible: All Bible Verses in this manual are from the NIV Bible (New International Version) unless specified differently.

Women in Truth Ministries: As a non-profit ministry working and uniting within the church, WIT was featured by Dr. Charles Stanley's television program on April 1, 2007, as a role model for women's church ministry. Since 1997, the WIT jail ministry, Follow-up Bible Fellowship church ministry, Weekly Newsletter, Van Service, Nine month – 2 year Spiritual Rehabilitation Program, Transitional home, and Pen Pal Jail Mentoring Program has led over 500 women per year to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. This tried and true program offers all their organizational procedures freely on their comprehensive web site. It is dedicated to church women who would like to start a women's ministry within their church or are in need of immediate help. Web site: www.WomenInTruth.org

Women in Truth Ministries Zambia: As a sister ministry of Women in Truth America, Zambian women are learning about the love of Jesus Christ while being trained for job skills such as raising crops, sponsoring shops in the market place and sewing skills. Needy remote village women are being supplied the Good News of Jesus Christ as well as necessary clothes, food, soap, school supplies for their children, etc.

Website: www.womenintruth.org

Evangelism Training (ET) is a witness training ministry free of charge to pastors and church leaders (both men and women) in Zambia, Africa, targeting the 73 tribes. Hundreds of pastors & church leaders have been equipped to share the Gospel effectively and boldly in their own village, tribe and language. The goal is for the Zambian's to become their own missionaries and evangelists. Free Training & Materials are offered at yearly conferences throughout Zambia. The Women in Truth Ministry co-partners with ET Conferences in establishing women's programs for women and children in great need. Contact founders Bob & Ann Kuefner, 706-216-5480. pilotrek@windstream.net & arkann@aol.com

Website www.evangelismtrainingministry.com

Book: "Thinking About Jail and Prison Ministries – A guide for the lay volunteer" by Larry Nielsen Larry Nielsen entered jail and prison ministry

after a career in law enforcement. That background gives Larry a unique perspective on corrections ministry. Larry currently serves as a volunteer lay chaplain in the Hamilton County, Ohio, corrections system, and is the CEO of Believers Behind Bars Correspondence School of the Bible. This short 7 Chapter paperback book can be purchased at Amazon or Christian Book Stores.

Crossroad Bible Institute (CBI) Inmate Courses & Instructor Seminars

Crossroad Bible Institute offers incarcerated men and women a Biblical course by mail in which they receive specialized one-on-one counseling, a graduation certificate, and references. It can also be completed at home if they are released. They also offer seminars for thousands of its Instructors and the general public interested in learning more about issues related to evangelism, discipleship, restorative justice and criminal justice.

Web site: www.crossroadbibleinstitute.org

Aurora Ministries Chaplain Help Ministry

Aurora offers three-day Chaplain Enrichment Seminars in different locations of the United States every year. They provide Bible based material to Chaplain ministries. Director Pastor Rich Hines PO Box 621, Bradenton, FL 34206 Tel: (941) 748-2625 www.ChaplainHelp.org

Evangelism Explosion International

EE is a witness training program equipping people to share the Gospel effectively. EE's prison/jail ministry believes every church should have a jail and/or prison ministry to accommodate families who are impacted through the experience of incarceration.

Website: www.eeinternational.org Phone: (954) 491-6100, (888) 567-3543

Email: info@eeinternational.org

A Strictly Biblical Perspective Ministries

A Strictly Biblical Perspective Ministries has developed a faith-based addiction/relapse prevention training curriculum. The "Back to Biblical Basic" workshop is a Biblical Cognitive Approach to understanding and addressing addiction and relapse prevention designed for counselors,

chaplains, and faith-based leaders. To contact The Institute for Prison Ministries at 630-752-5727 or at ipm@wheaton.edu.

Web site: www.asbpm.org

Christian Twelve Step Ministry Inc.

A teaching ministry presenting the message of recovery from addictions and out of control behaviors through the healing powers of Jesus Christ, using the study guide Walking the Twelve Steps of Jesus Christ. This recovery program is used successfully in many jails, prisons and churches. The guide was compiled by Ray Geisel while volunteering in the local jail and prison.

Contact: www.christian12step.org

Celebrate Recovery

Fourteen years ago, Saddleback Church launched Celebrate Recovery. It was designed as a program to help those struggling with hurts, habits and hang-ups by showing them the loving power of Jesus Christ through a recovery process. www.celebraterecovery.com



WIT goal: Helping women reach beyond their circumstances by discovering strength through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

www.womenintruth.org

This manual has been compiled & written by Women In Truth founder Ann Kuefner, who has served in women's jail ministry since 1993 in both Florida and Georgia. She also has served in foreign missions in Russia, Ukraine, Romania, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Norway, South Africa, and Zambia.

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