

March 2016

Newsletter Overview—Page 1

Mike Baley — Pages 2 and 3

Sandra Kearns— Pages 4 and 5

Chaplain's Corner— Page 6

Conclusion Page 7

Calvary Jail Ministries Newsletter



Calvary Jail Ministry Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 3

Greetings from the Calvary Jail Ministry team! We are continuing in our quest to publish a newsletter that will increase the awareness of the ministry that God has laid on our hearts and ultimately give Him praise for what He has done for us through Jesus Christ.

This is our newsletter for March. All previous newsletters are archived on our website at www.calvaryjail.com.

In this edition, Sandra Kearns writes on restoration and the supernatural ability God has to breathe life into deadened spirits. You can learn more about Sandra at www.onwingslikeadove.com.

Mike Baley is a board member with Calvary Jail Ministries. Mike writes about stepping out of our comfort zone and becoming one of the tools that God uses to accomplish His purpose.

Dan Rodriguez, chaplain from Calvary Jail Ministries, will challenge us to help the ministry and reach out to those incarcerated. ‘Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do *it* to one of the least of these, you did not do *it* to Me.’

Matthew 25: 45



Calvary Jail Ministries Newsletter

³ concerning his Son, who was descended from David^[b] according to the flesh ⁴ and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵ through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶ including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,
Romans 1: 3—6

Mike Baley

What do you think of when someone asks you to be involved in a Jail or Prison Ministry? When I was asked that question, my response was probably similar to others. Different thoughts run through your mind such as shouldn't I do something more important, is it worth it, will I be in danger, etc. However, my 9+ years of experience have answered these questions with "No", "Yes", & "No". I am definitely out of my comfort zone, but this is when God works through us the best.

I have discovered that some of the inmates have heard the good news many times and some have not. They are much like the rest of us, choosing an idol instead of choosing Jesus. An idol could be pride, material possessions/ money, people, or substance abuse. We also see evidence that some of the inmates may have been reached, but did not receive adequate biblical teaching or discipleship. Bible studies are one of many ways to address these different stages of Christianity.

My involvement has been to have a Bible Study where the inmates are exposed to God's Word. Scripture promises the power of God's Word and His presence.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 says ¹⁶ "All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

Hebrews 4:12 says ¹² "For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

John 14:15-17 says ¹⁵ "If you love Me, keep My commandments. ¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you."

Calvary Jail Ministries Newsletter

Mike Baley

These Bible Studies have produced some miraculous responses. A few that come to mind are as follows:

Once, we had an inmate marching around the tables where we were having a Bible Study. He would stop after a couple of times and specifically ask “Does the Bible really say that?” We were able to show him the scripture(s) specifically dealing with his question. This was repeated a couple more times in the same manner. After the last question, this particular inmate sat down and participated in the Bible Study. God’s Spirit was at work.

There was a circumstance where we were ending the Bible Study and we had read scripture in Romans 10:9-12 about responding to the good news. For some reason, I asked if there has ever been a time when you needed to respond as described in this scripture. One inmate sitting nearby said, “Yes, right now.” God’s Spirit was at work again.

There are some inmates that are either there for several months or have repeated the process. We have witnessed changes in their attitudes from something caused their circumstance to taking full ownership of the circumstances and trusting God to work it out according to His plan.

We frequently have responses by the inmates regarding their gratitude for taking the time to study with them. These miracles and changes in attitudes can only happen with God’s influence. We are one of the tools that He likes to use to accomplish His purposes, which ultimately is either reconciliation with God through Jesus Christ or Christian growth. It continues to be a blessing to us and them.

Mike Baley

Calvary Jail Ministries Newsletter

¹⁵ Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away."¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, **[b]**"Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.
John: 20: 15—18

Sandra Kearns—Whispers In The Wind

In the midst of a very difficult season in the journey with our prodigal, God sent a newsletter to us with an encouraging word of hope. It was written by Jack Hayford and entitled, "Whispers in the Wind". It was a call for the children to come home.

It reads as follows: Every March brings the reminder of God's dealing with young people to establish His will in their lives. This March, He is ready to do the same.

In Isaiah 43: 5-7, God declares His commitment to breathe His call to our descendants "from the west, north and the south". He says, "I will bring them, I will say, Give them up. Do not keep them back. Believe My word of promise. There is no place My voice cannot reach your children. Call unto Me.....and I will call unto them!"

Bring the children home Lord! Jesus said, "The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit" John 3:8 (KJV).

With those words our Lord not only describes God's supernatural ability to breathe life into deadened spirits, but also, He teaches us the wisdom of refusing to doubt He is at work in people we despair of reaching or in human circumstances we think may be beyond redemption.

Even now, I am already going before you, faithful servant. I am breathing into the dark corners of hearts that are darkened, blinded, bound, and tormented. Though no one knows what I am doing or with whom I am dealing each one of them is aware of it."

What an encouragement to parents who are in the middle of a crisis with their prodigal, where it seems hopeless, and when they may feel like their prayers are useless. We often need to receive encouragement in the midst of what seems to be an impossible situation and this newsletter came at such a time for me.

We need to know our intercession is making a difference. What a beautiful picture this is as we envision our prayers going up to our Father and as we choose to believe He is breathing into our Prodigals His very breath which hopefully brings life to them as it restores them to walk in His plan and purpose for their lives.

Calvary Jail Ministries Newsletter

Sandra Kearns—Whispers In The Wind

¹⁹ On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews,^[c] Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."
John 20: 19—23

On Wings believes this is the year of Restoration for our Prodigals. Won't you join us as we cry out to the Father on their behalf, expecting Him to call out to them. May He breathe life into their deadened spirits. Let's not doubt He is working in those we so often despair of reaching. All things are possible with God.

Pass on this word of hope to a family who is struggling today. Many loved ones are heart broken over the choices of their spouse or child. Join them in intercession for their prodigal knowing God is hearing and calling out to them. Your prayers are a gift of love and a sign of encouragement to those who have lost hope.

Thank you to all the Calvary Jail Volunteers who go in week after week to minister to the prisoners. This mother prayed for years for men and women just like you who would be able to touch the heart of our Prodigal in ways we could not. Your willingness to go is powerful and not overlooked by those on the inside and their families. You are appreciated.

Sandra Kearns

On Wings Like A Dove

www.onwingslikeadove.com



Calvary Jail Ministries Newsletter

Chaplain's Corrnar—Dan Rodriguez, Calvary Jail Ministry Chaplain

It is time to greet you in the most high name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and reach out to **YOU....** yes, **YOU !!!**
YOU, reading this newsletter.

We at Calvary Jail Ministries are looking for men and women that understand the calling of our Lord Jesus Christ to serve with us. There is a great need in the jails where we serve! There are men and women incarcerated that are going through extremely difficult times in their lives and are suffering deep pain, rejection and loneliness. They are in such great need of hope and direction and very few of us even think about them.

Read and listen to the words of our Lord Jesus:

Mathew 25:43 sick and in prison and you did not visit me. 44“Then they also will answer Him,saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?’**45**Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do *it* to one of the least of these, you did not do *it* to Me.’ **46** And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Yes! We are called by Jesus to go out and reach those that are in prison! And minister to them! To fulfill their needs, to give them hope. To share the good news of Jesus Christ! So they may be healed and restored!

Jesus died on the cross for all. This includes those that are incarcerated. So, I will ask you to pray, and listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit as He confirms **your calling** to join us, and go with us to reach out to those who are in jail.

We are in need of Christian brothers and sisters like you to volunteer your time and serve the Lord through this ministry. To those that respond, you will receive your reward from The Lord on that day!

I hope and pray to hear from you very soon, and God bless you.

Pastor Dan Rodriguez
Chaplain

Calvary Jail Ministries Newsletter

Conclusion

I love this time of year. I enjoy watching the flowers bloom and the leaves returning to the trees. As I write this, I look out my window and see a dogwood tree starting to bloom. I am quickly reminded of the sacrifice of Christ and the power of his resurrection—Awesome! The men and women incarcerated need to hear and accept this truth. Please pray that their hearts and minds will be opened up. Please pray that they will surrender their lives to Christ!

Aren't we all thankful for an Empty Tomb!

Have a Great Easter!!!

In His Service,
Keven Carroll
Calvary Jail Board Member

Contact Information: WWW.CALVARYJAIL.COM

Mailing Address: Calvary Jail Ministries
P.O. Box 25123
Winston-Salem, NC 27114-5123

He's
Risen!

