

The Disciple Times

Sharing the Gospel of Jesus inside our Jails and Prisons since 2012

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Celebrating our 10 Year Anniversary

April, May, June 2022



From the desk of Pastor Dennis

Thank you, Jesus, for bringing me this far in serving you through this wonderful ministry. I have been so blessed over the past 10 years by You allowing me to build a ministry that brings hope and encouragement to many inmates across the country, by sharing the Gospel with them.

So here we are again with another newsletter and before I get into my letter to each one of you, pray with me for direction and wisdom to see and hear what God has planned for you.

Heavenly Father, I come to you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ as I sit here and write the words you have placed on my heart to your sheep that flock together in a dark field lost. How merciful you are to trust me to speak your words to those who need to hear the message of hope and salvation. Only you God can change someone's heart, only you Lord can provide the comfort for the brokenness of these men and women, who have fallen on hard times and may feel that your presence is not with them.

Heavenly father, we lift them up today and we praise you for the ability to shine light into darkness as you gather the weak and place them on the path you have laid out for them. Open their hearts, Lord, let them see the miracles in the transformation of one's life-you are a merciful forgiven God. I ask that you open every single heart of your children to be blessed with this newsletter, and may they find the same salvation that I have found in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Lord, I praise you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ for placing me on my path and giving me the ability to run the race that you have planned for me so long before I could even comprehend. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen

When I look back 10 years ago when I decided to take the leap of faith. I was fulfilling my obligation in answering the call to serve God's people no matter where they are located. I had no clue where my obedience would take me. However, I had enough faith in Christ to jump into His race. Then as I started to sprint towards the finish line it seemed to get further and further away. You see it's not about how quick or how fast we become a faithful servant, it is how we work on achieving the goal. We are all in the

same race, and that race is to become more like Jesus - "not becoming Jesus"- this is very hard I know for most of you. And it's not just our brothers and sisters that sit inside of our prisons, it is each one of us. So many times, we lose our focus on Christ as we let participants of the fleshly marathon impact our thoughts and change the way we run the race for Christ.

When God placed it on my heart to speak to you on Philippians chapter 3, I was not sure where he wanted me to go with the Scripture, so I sat and gathered the Bible studies and prayed that God would give me the wisdom to find a sound message. I started to go through some of my studies dating back to my own incarceration. I was quickly reminded of how difficult it is stand up and worship our Lord Jesus Christ within the walls of the institutions that many of us are currently facing. As we walk through our daily lives we are smothered with worldly and fleshly things that distract us in our walk with Christ. One thing that I have found, is that God uses imperfect people to carry his message of grace and mercy, and you are no exception.

When God called me to serve him, I thought to myself, "What have I to offer?" However, I was only thinking in an earthly way. As I sat in the house of correction and studied the word of God, I discovered that God had already given me many gifts which I chose not to use for the glory of God. Living a fleshly life, indulging in earthly made spirits, and always running the race for myself. - yes, I became a worshiper of earthly things. And where did that bring me? I know I cannot change the past; however, I can use the past as a reminder of where I came from. Today I walk without shackles and no longer in bondage only by the grace of God, by the shed blood of Jesus Christ on the cross.

In no way am I saying that I have reached my goal as I know that no matter what, I need to finish the race and keep my focus on Christ so that through his words I can be a beacon of light, a Shepherd leading his sheep out of darkness, and most important seeking his lost sheep. Paul says in Philippians 3:20-21 "but our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body."

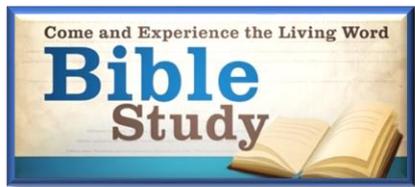
As I bring this letter to closure, if I can give you a piece of the joy, peace, and humbleness that God has given me over the past 14 years, it is this:

When I was sentenced back on April 8, 2008, I thought my life was over, never thought that I could ever give anything back. But you see God had a plan for me and today I know and thank our Heavenly Father for placing me right where I needed to be so I could reflect on my inner self. I came to see that Christ lives in me and I was shown how to allow Christ to use the Holy Spirit to guide me in using the many gifts I have for the Glory of God.

We must always remember God does and will always use imperfect people for his glory so that others can see the power of a merciful forgiving God. Will you keep your focus on Christ? Please join me in the race of salvation, for the power of the resurrection is a powerful source and will lead you into greener pastures.

May God give you the insight and tools to be a faithful servant in sharing the name of Jesus Christ!

In this issue we will look at **Philippians 3** and a study I did while I was still incarcerated, with my updated answers.



The Book Summary

Philippians is Paul's discussion of living the Christian life. In this letter to the church of Philippi, Paul highlights themes such as joy and glory. He also puts great emphasis on how a Christian's thinking—their attitude—affects the way they live out their faith. Paul is very thankful for the support of the Philippian church but is also concerned about the influence of various false teachers. This letter is less theological than most of his other writings, and more practical.

The Context of Chapter 3

In chapters 1 and 2, Paul explained how Christians should respond to hardships. Since Christ was willing to obey God, even to the point of death, we should do the same. Complaining and worry have no place in the life of a saved believer. Chapter 3 makes a bold contrast. Paul's credentials, according to Jewish tradition, were impeccable. And yet, for him, none of those accomplishments are worth anything next to fellowship with Christ. For this reason, Christ is to be the sole focus

of the believer. This sets up Paul's final greetings and instructions in chapter 4.

Philippians 3 (NLT)

1 Whatever happens, my dear brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord. I never get tired of telling you these things, and I do it to safeguard your faith. **2** Watch out for those dogs, those people who do evil, those mutilators who say you must be circumcised to be saved. **3** For we who worship by the Spirit of God are the ones who are truly circumcised. We rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort, **4** though I could have confidence in my own effort if anyone could. Indeed, if others have reason for confidence in their own efforts, I have even more! **5** I was circumcised when I was eight days old. I am a pure-blooded citizen of Israel and a member of the tribe of Benjamin—a real Hebrew if there ever was one! I was a member of the Pharisees, who demand the strictest obedience to the Jewish law. **6** I was so zealous that I harshly persecuted the church. And as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault. **7** I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. **8** Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ **9** and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God's way of making us right with himself depends on faith. **10** I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, **11** so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!

12 I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. **13** No, dear brothers, and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, **14** I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us. **15** Let all who are spiritually mature agree on these things. If you disagree on some point, I believe God will make it plain to you. **16** But we must hold on to the progress we have already made. **17** Dear brothers and sisters, pattern your lives after mine, and learn from those who follow our example.

18 For I have told you often before, and I say it again with tears in my eyes, that there are many whose conduct shows they are really enemies of the cross of Christ. **19** They are headed for destruction. Their god is their appetite, they brag about shameful things, and they think only about this life here on earth. **20** But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. **21** He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.

What does Philippians chapter 3 mean?

Philippians chapter 3 speaks about Christ as the proper focus during times of suffering. Philippians 2 sets this passage up in the context of persecution and oppression for the sake of the gospel. First, Paul discusses the importance of righteousness through faith in Christ rather than by works (Philippians 3:1–11). Second, Paul talks about straining toward the goal of following Christ (Philippians 3:12–21).

In Philippians 3:1–11, Paul begins with a reminder to "rejoice in the Lord" (Philippians 3:1). He also warns his readers to "look out" for certain specific types of false teachers (Philippians 3:2). Those who required Jewish circumcision, or other rituals, as part of salvation were not part of the true family of faith. The true "circumcision" is those who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:3).

Paul then adds his own spiritual resume, noting his reasons to boast "in the flesh" (Philippians 3:4). They included: circumcision on the eighth day; being from Israel, specifically the tribe of Benjamin; being a Pharisee; persecuting the church; and living according to the law (Philippians 3:5–6). Paul's point is that if any human being could be justified by the law, he would be—and yet, he considers all of that wasted in comparison to Christ (Philippians 3:7–8). Nothing was more important than knowing Jesus.

Paul's focus is to be "found in [Christ]," finding a righteousness not based on works of the law but on faith (Philippians 3:9). His goal is to know Christ and the power of His resurrection. He wants to also share in His sufferings, becoming like Him in his death (Philippians 3:10).

In the second half of the chapter, Paul speaks of pressing on or straining toward Christ-like living (Philippians 3:12–21). He begins by stating that he is not yet perfect but is working toward living more like Christ (Philippians 3:12). He does not focus on the past, but on the future (Philippians 3:13). He is committed to the goal of the calling of Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:14). All mature believers are to live this way (Philippians 3:15), holding on to the progress they have already attained (Philippians 3:16).

Paul then calls the believers to imitate him (Philippians 3:17). In contrast, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ (Philippians 3:18), something that brought tears to Paul. These people were focused on their own satisfaction and were set on earthly things (Philippians 3:19). In contrast, the believer's citizenship is in heaven. Believers await the return of Christ (Philippians 3:20). Christ will change the human bodies of believers into a new body like

Christ has, something that should bring believers joy (Philippians 3:21).

This is a study I did back in 2010 on Philippians 3 Glorified in Jesus Through Faith (Phil 3:2-11)

1. Who are the "dogs", "evildoers" and "those who mutilate the flesh"? How are they compared with the Philippians?

The evil doers were the so-called circumcision party. They called themselves followers of Christ, so they were able to infiltrate Christian communities. However, they advocated observing the statutes of the Mosaic Law, thus obscuring, and even nullifying the good news of the gospel. They trusted that their strict obedience to the Law of Moses would curry favor with God leading to salvation. Whether or not a person was circumcised became a litmus test of obedience to the Law. So, Paul singles it out as a dominant feature of their anti-gospel message when he refers to them as "mutilators of the flesh". On the other hand, like the Philippians we also believe in the gospel understand our sinfulness and are trusting in Christ's death and righteousness which we have received by our faith.

2. In the last section, Paul called us to "rejoice in the Lord". His very next thought is to "Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh." How might the influence of these people keep the Philippians from rejoicing in the Lord?

Just like the Philippians, if we believe that we must earn God's favor, obedience to the Lord becomes burdensome and fearful to us. Just look around your surroundings. How can you rejoice in the lavish blessings of God, when you are never quite sure if you have yet merited them? It does not matter how great the promises of God are or how wonderful God is described if you can never be sure his goodness is yours. We Christians know that it is an unmerited gift from God the father through the Death and Resurrection of Christ.

3. What does it mean to "put no confidence in the flesh"? Why do you think Paul give himself as an example of this? What does Paul put his confidence in now?

By putting confidence in the flesh is like trusting that our own righteousness merits the favor or goodness of God. Paul uses himself as an example because he excelled beyond all his colleagues in strict observance of the Law, but even in his achievements knew that his righteousness was rubbish before God. So, if Paul's best efforts are rubbish, then all else are discouraged from pursuing the Law as if they could perform it to God's satisfaction and earn salvation. Paul, like many of us place our faith upon Christ. That the only way for our salvation is through Christ. We never have to wait to clean ourselves up before we come before Christ. He wants you just as you are.

4. Look over Paul's credentials. What "gain" was he deriving from them? Why does he now see them as loss?

The gain Paul derived from his achievements was the tentative hope that they amounted to enough good to please God. Perhaps, as a Pharisee he also appreciated the esteem from his colleagues before. However, as a Christian, he now sees the foolishness and emptiness of the so-called "gain" he once sought. He now views his achievements as loss since the only thing they ever did was to blind Paul from his need for the gospel. They moved him further from Christ if anything, not closer. What is moving you further away from Christ? Do not let your past stop you from seeking God's salvation. As you're a child of God and your sins are no more through Christ Jesus.

5. What does it mean to be "found in" Christ? How is this related to being righteous?

To be found in Christ is a spatial metaphor that describes God finding us through Christ. Because Jesus lives in us, so when God finds us, he only finds the merits of Christ's righteousness and not our own. Therefore, to be in Christ is to possess his righteousness. So many times, we neglect to feel this as we sit confined to a cell. How am I righteous in God's eyes; through the shed blood of Christ on the cross paying the price for our sins. Having faith in Christ.

6. Paul says the ultimate purpose of being righteous is so that he can know Christ and the power of his resurrection. What does he mean by these things?

Knowing Christ is having a relationship with him. The power of his resurrection is to experience the life-giving power that rose Christ from the dead. This resurrection power is currently at work in our souls. It initially gave us new life when we were born again at the beginning of our faith in Christ. It continues to be at work in every believer giving them life, transforming them to be more like Christ. When God works in us to will and to work for his good pleasure it is this resurrection power that he uses. Remember that day you found the power of the Gospel of Jesus. How at peace you felt the Day you accepted Christ into your heart. This is what we strive for a relationship in Christ.

7. What is the resurrection of the dead?

This phrase is describing something different from the power of Christ's resurrection. Here Paul has in mind the actual resurrection of the dead at the Day of Christ return. This final resurrection is the beginning of the full experience of eternal life. I have come a long way since my becoming Born Again but to be able to experience the full power of resurrection is the reason for running this marathon.

The Joyful Perseverance That Comes from Assurance
(Phil 3:12-16)

8. Some people argue that if you are assured eternal life there is no more motivation to persevere in a life of serving Christ. Yet here Paul indicates that his motivation to persevere is just because "Christ Jesus has made me his own". How does this work? Why might the assurance that Paul belongs to Christ motivate him to "strain forward" toward heaven?

When we are assured of our place with Christ, we should have every motivation to persevere for him until we get there, to "eternal life". Just imagine if you were only 50/50 that you would go to heaven to be with Christ. If you encountered suffering for Christ in this life, you could easily conclude that it is not worth it to continue being faithful to Christ when, after all, you don't know for sure if it will be worth it in the end. However, if you know that Christ has made you his own, and you are 100% sure of your relationship with him, then you know that no matter what suffering you experience in this life for Christ it will be worth it, in the end, to be faithful and persevere, because Christ has guaranteed that the prize for your suffering will be waiting for you.

9. Why might Paul consider it a mark of maturity to recognize your own imperfection?

All of us are imperfect, so anyone who is not willing to recognize that they have not achieved perfection is blind to his own condition. Mature people have a clear sense of their imperfection along with an unrelenting drive to be more Christ-like. As I always say we need to shine the light of Christ so those who are in darkness around us can see a path to salvation. This drive comes from God's power at work in our lives and the joy of knowing Christ. The mature Christian experiences God's power and joy in the Lord, not because they are more righteous, but because they put their confidence in Christ and not in themselves - something I really struggled with before I was sentenced and never realized until God removed the scales from my eyes. I must admit that I still struggle with my imperfections in life but understand that I need to go through them to become more mature in Christ.

Exploring how-to live-in Christ (Phil 3:17-3:21)

1. Paul gives three commands in this passage, what are they?

1. Paul says to imitate him. (Meaning his walk in Christ) 2. Keep your eyes on those who walk like Paul. (Always look for that person in your life that not only shares the Gospel but lives the Gospel.) 3. Stand firm in the Lord. (Know that God loves you and sent his son to pay the price of your sins. Keep your faith in the death and resurrection of Christ.)

2. Put in your own words what Paul's main concern for the Philippians might be.

At this time Paul had watched several men become enemies of the cross as they tried to fill their lives with earthly things, taking their focus off Christ and putting it on the earthly things. Paul here wants his beloved Philippians to stay true to Christ.

3. Paul draws a number of contrasts between those who walk as enemies of the cross (19) and those who walk like Paul (20). Let's discuss them. What is one way Paul describes those who are enemies of the cross? How is that contrasted with believers?

There is a fourfold contrast between Christians and non-Christians: (1) Christians are heavenly oriented; the others earthly, (2) Christians anticipate that the glory of Christ will be their own; others glory in their own lowly and shameful reality because they can imagine no better, (3) Christians are subject only to him who subjects all things to himself, even for the good of his people; others are slaves to their earthly possessions, having no power to oppose the gods of their various passions, (4) Christians are awaiting and have faith in their salvation; others will end in destruction as they boast about their earthly idols.

I also want to share with you how I lived before coming to know Christ. Living a false life and everything I had was based on making other people think I was the almighty Dennis, when the only person affected by this was myself. I thought! Today I can see that I no longer feel I need to please anyone other than God! Living my daily life for the glory of God, keeping my sight on Christ no matter what life brings my way.

4. Why do you think some are able to stand firm and others flirt with worldly ways of living? What perspectives does Paul offer to help the believer stand firm?

Having faith that we are citizens of heaven; and that the Savior is coming. If we really believe that we are citizens of heaven, we should be less likely to flirt with earthly things. If we really trust that Jesus is coming for us, we should be unwilling to abandon our faith in the death and resurrection of Christ even if it causes us momentary discomfort.

5. Paul says about the enemies of the cross of Christ that they have their minds "set on earthly things". Obviously, we all must think about getting an education, earning a living, finding a spouse, taking care of our possessions. What is the difference between having a mind "set" on these things versus just thinking about them to be responsible?

We must think about the affairs of this world, but they must never become our driving motivation, our hunger, or our

passions. We should be slaves only to the will of God and we deal with the issues of this world as part of serving him, bringing him glory, seeking our satisfaction in him.

Even if you are sitting in a dark place right now and feel you have nothing to offer, I understand as I have been there myself. Earthly things are just that – earthly -we cannot take them with us. Start building your relationship with Christ and take responsibility for the things he has given you. Yes, we have a responsibility to carry out our obligations here on earth. Just do not let them control your life, seek Jesus in everything you do, glorifying God always. The race is not over just because you gave your life over to God. The marathon just started!

6. We often talk about ourselves as being "saved," i.e., past tense. What aspects of our salvation are still pending, according to this passage or others? Why is it important to always remember that our salvation is not fully accomplished? How might forgetting this contribute to someone not persevering in their walk with Christ?

We must remember that we are still not delivered from the sin in our flesh, we are not immortal, we are still subject to the curse upon the earth, we are still cut off from face-to-face intimacy with the Lord, we are persecuted for righteousness. It is so important to remember that our salvation is not complete yet so that we do not become discouraged as if this was all God had for us.

If we believed we were supposed to fully experience salvation now, we would soon become discouraged that our experience is far short of what we imagined it would be. We will experience full salvation, but we look forward to that day in hope and do not become discouraged when we experience the difficulties of this life. Many of you already heard my story of pleading for God to take my life as I no longer wanted to live. Believing that going to jail made me worthless and insignificant. Yes, I did die! However, God picked me up right where I was, and I surrendered my will over to him, dying to myself and my earthly ways into a life of service in sharing the Gospel to all who need the power of Christ death and resurrection!



Some last thoughts

Just as Paul called the Philippians to "press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus," I ask you about your thoughts about the future. Have they led you to reflect on the fact that not all of us will make it to that Day? So, I urge you to "stand firm in the Lord" and find your way.

Paul knew not all his readers will persevere because he had already seen many fall away and become “enemies of the cross”. So, Paul strengthens them by reminding them that they have a Savior who is coming soon to bring them to their heavenly home where they are already citizens. You must remember you are a child of God, and he wants to have a relationship with you. If God changed the heart of Paul, who called himself the worst of sinners, how much more will God forgive you.

Paul ends by calling us to rejoice in the Lord. His very next thought is to look out for false teachers who were teaching that you could be righteous before God based on performing the Law of God. However, Paul knew from his own experience that when you trust in your own performance it will destroy your faith in God, which ends up alienating us from God and his power to truly transform us.

So, we like Paul need to draw on our own personal experience to urge others to trust in the righteousness that is by our faith in Christ so we might enjoy our own relationship with God. Help others to experience His power in your life and have the motivation to press on because of the assurance of God’s favor. We are called to spread the Gospel of Jesus. Some of us may be the closest thing to a Bible that a person may see.

The joy of knowing Christ is possible only through the gospel. That Christ provides us with his perfect righteousness by faith so that we might know him and the power of his resurrection. Do not miss out on the joy and power of knowing Christ by putting your confidence in your own righteousness and not his.

I hope everyone of you have a blessed summer and I am looking forward to the next message God gives me to share with you. Dennis



In Jesus, all is well

Even though the world is full of evil that lurks in the darkness, we shall never fear; the Lord said, he would never leave nor forsake us, for he is always nearby.

To us he has made a vow, that in times of trouble he will be there; though many will come against us, from our head we will not lose a single hair. (Luke 21:17-18) So even when the roar of the lion is heard in the distance and seems

to be closing in fast; remember we can stand on the word of the Lord, believing his promise will come to pass.

What a mighty Lord we serve, and the greatest friend he is; indeed, He may not give all that the flesh wants, add spiritually he is truly all we need.

So, when all the world as we know it, seems to be falling apart, lift up your praise to Him; for he is preparing within us a godly heart. A heart that is focused on Thy Kingdom being at hand (Mat 4:17) a heart that will be right, when before God we must all come to stand.

Allowing him to save our souls and enter the gates of heaven, is what the goal is all about; and knowing that it is he who came to save us, all glory Speech is a Kingdom, in the name of Jesus we continue to scream and shout.

One day to him, every knee shall bow, and every tongue will confess, Jesus is Lord of all, and in him alone we find salvation’s rest.

His will be done written by Craig Hood 6-13-2013

Degrees of Glory

We soon shall see our Savior’s face,
We who are saved by love and grace.
How sweet to know and realize
He’s coming soon and with our prize.

But what reward will we have earned
If all our labors wind up burned?
Could we regret that while on earth
We wasted time with things of mirth?

“That matters little,” some believe,
“Once Christ’s salvation we receive.
Since Christ accepted all our blame,
We’ll get to heaven just the same.”

It’s true that heaven’s not deserved,
But God still watches how we serve;
And what we do with what we’re given
Will make a difference up in heaven.

No work for Christ will be in vain;
That’s why some labor though in pain;
But talents given and never used
Will cause rewards to be refused.

Though life up there will be a blast,
Yet some are first and others last.
With angels and archangels there,
What glories might we people share?

The race we run was God’s own plan,
And Christ has built a winners’ stand,
So let us serve our Lord today,
Convinced that it will surely pay.

Let’s find some people needing love
And give it as to Christ above.
That kind of work will never burn
And Christ will smile at His return.

--A Fellow Worker

Big People by Jerome T

Disciple of Christ Ministries – you are a work of art,
and I know that you'll prosper – to finish from start,
because God knows the heart – so His flowers my bloom,
that's why I can't wait – to hear from you soon,
I wish you the best – we're in this as one,
let all God's shine as thy come,
real bright like the sun, so DOC wish you well,
keep doing what your doing – may Jesus prevail,
and may every tongue tell – the story of the King,
the story so great – it makes bells ring,
a wonderful thing – we must give our all,
because without God were trapped in a ball,
oh, so very small.

WORKING AND STRIVING TOWARD GLORY
By Aaron Frazier

Lord, guide me to heaven
Turn the "high beams on"
Make the way so bright,
darkness will not even notice I am gone.

Anoint **me** to win souls,
Appoint me to help render the lost.
As I surrender, provide me a mercy so tender
that I would triumph no matter the cost.

Keep me in blessed company.
Give me the fight of faith to withstand.
When I do battle, hold me in the saddle.
Condition me for a position in the Promised Land.

In obedience, I shall take stride.
My life being a testament to your glory.
Push me on, as I run toward home.
Hold me accountable to bring along a blessed story.

Glory in the highest! Hallelujah!

*Thanks to all who have made this
newsletter possible with your
continued support to this ministry!*

*A special thank you to my Christian
Brother Gordon for the stamps!*

*May God continue to bless our work
in reaching the lost and forgotten
souls through your financial support!*

I want to share with any male inmate who
is being released soon a program that I
have joined forces with called S.O.S.
Surviving Out-Side.



S.O.S.
Surviving Out-Side

**A formerly incarcerated support
group for men**

We are a support group for men out of incarceration supporting them in a weekly group format meeting. We are Christian men who have all struggled with the challenges re-building a life out of the rubble of destruction our addictions and mistakes have caused us and others. No judgements. No pre-requisites other than having done any amount of time behind bars and a willingness to be accountable to change. We are under the umbrella of Full Gospel Businessmen Fellowship in America, Greater Boston Chapter. Currently, and for some time to come, we will be online. If you are being released, please take our email down for contact information to join our virtual group.

Fgbmfa.matteo@gmail.com.

You can also look us up on meetup.com under FGBMFA Greater Boston. Or simply google us. We look forward to being one tool to help you in re-building your life with a Christ focused group. Be blessed. We CAN do this together!!!

From Every Sin

*"He shall save his people from their sins."
" Matt. 1:21*

Lord, save me from my sins. By thy name of Jesus, I am encouraged thus to pray. Save me from my past sins, that the habit of them may not hold me captive. Save me from my constitutional sins, that I may not be the slave of my own weaknesses. Save me from the sins which are continually under my eye that I may not lose my horror of them. Save me from secret sins; sins unperceived by me from my want of light. Save me from sudden and surprising sins: let me not be carried off my feet by a rush of temptation. Save me, Lord, from every sin. Let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

You alone can do this. I cannot snap my own chains or slay my own enemies. You know temptation, for You were tempted. You know sin, for You bared the weight of it. You know how to rescue me in my hour of conflict; You can save me from sinning and save me when I have sinned. It is promised in Your very name that You will do this, and I pray that You let me this day verify the prophecy. Let me not give way to temper, or pride, or hopelessness, or any form of evil; but do save me unto holiness of life, that the name of Jesus may be glorified in me abundantly.

Disciple of Christ Ministries

Celebrating our 10-year anniversary this June!

Pen Pals for Jesus

Sharing the Gospel to the lost and forgotten since 2012

**Post Office Box 221
North Quincy, MA 02171**

Answering the call to serve God's People no matter where they are located!

A message to our supporters and churches that receive this newsletter.

We invite you to join us in ***"Answering the Call to Serve God's People No Matter Where They are Located!"*** Your help is needed to accommodate the volume of inmates reaching out to us for help.

We are celebrating our 10-year anniversary this month, a true blessing in my life. Living by faith, I started this journey back in 2012, not knowing if this was what God was asking me to do. I am humbled today seeing that this ministry is fulfilling the vision I received back in 2010 while I was incarcerated. Over the past years we have grown from 5 inmates to just over 500 as of this newsletter. Our Pen Pals for Jesus program alone has increased by 46% the past year. Yes, God has blessed this ministry in many new ways, and I am looking forward to what God has planned for the ministry in the future.

As I continue working fulltime at the ministry, it is my sincere love for Christ that gives me my drive to fulfill the will of the Father and bring the Gospel to every person who seeks our help. With all the new growth, I need to find more ways to fund the work we are doing like this newsletter and our growing cost of running a prison ministry. However, we need more individuals or churches to join our efforts in building God's kingdom.

We are a non-profit organization and strictly rely on donations to meet our financial needs in running Disciple of Christ Ministries. James 4:2b says: ***you do not have, because you do not ask.*** So, I am prayerfully asking if you would consider joining us in what God has already started through this ministry with your gift of any amount. You can mail your check to PO Box 221, N. Quincy MA 02171 our scan the QR Code to the right. 



**Please note our
new mailing
address**

**Disciple of Christ
Ministries**

**Post Office Box 221
North Quincy, MA
02171**

**Please scan the
QR Code below
To donate.**

