



LAST DOOR, INC.

A 501(c)3 Non-Profit

God Made Real Ministries

- ✦ **Our Vision:** That released Persons will serve the disenfranchised and the vulnerable: The Widow, the Fatherless, the Stranger the Outcast and the Prisoner.
- ✦ **Our Mission:** No One Stays Hurt

David Morgenstern - Resurrected Life in Christ Journey

I was incarcerated twice: 1988-89, a short sentence for misapplying the capital of a bank, then a long one, 2003-16, for Organized Crime Money Laundering. I was sentenced on Good Friday, April 18, 2003. It was late in the day. Instead of being hauled to the Federal Detention Center (FDC) in Miami (a nice place, everything considered), I was locked down in one of the maximum-security cells at BSO's Mail Jail (not a nice place). My sentence was 180 months for money laundering, 30 months for obstruction of justice, and 36 months supervised release. From November 21, 2011, when I violated my pre-trial bond, through May 2, 2016, I was in and out of federal custody.

It is notable that my first visit with only part of my family, due to the distance of the prisons from South Florida, and other hardships, was 63 months into my sentence. I was never able over my 13 years incarcerated, to see my entire family (wife and 5 children) together, due to prison visitation restrictions. I also had a failed knee replacement in July, 2008, and was placed in a wheelchair for 18 months in desperate pain until approval for a replacement revision was granted in January, 2010. Then, in December, 2011, I was diagnosed with very advanced, papillary-follicular Thyroid cancer, finishing treatment in Spring, 2012, as a cancersurvivor.

I was released from Federal prison on November 5, 2015, into a Community Custody until May 2, 2016. Then I served 22 months of my 36-month adjudicated Supervised Release (SR) which was reduced without sanctions on April 18, 2018 (15 years to the day from my sentencing). The Federal Court permitted me that reduction for exceptional contributions behind the fence for the benefit of both the prisons and the inmates, and so I could begin my ministry in the prison and jails down here.

What started at the BSO Main Jail that April 18, 2003 became for me, a rites of passage journey from one kind of life to another, from arch-criminal to ordained minister, correctional chaplain, and clinical pastoral counselor practitioner. In the beginning, I didn't see myself as being like a Bible character (most had dark pasts, transformed by God to serve the vulnerable). My trek took me through 5 more jail systems in 4 different states. was incarcerated in 5 different Federal institutions, all more than 800 miles from home, for over 157 months, until I completed that phase of my sentence. Even after that, I had 42 months of community custody still to go.

I began teaching in a prison in early 2004. In Genesis, Joseph is the popular story of a prisoner wrongly accused, yet it is a bigger story about how God uses him for the good of many, especially his own family. I was teaching verse by verse chapter by chapter about Joseph one night to a group of men and my heart melted. I suddenly realized I wasn't just on course correction as a wayward man. I was called by the Waymaker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper, Light in the Darkness God to serve the Widow, the Fatherless, the Stranger, the Outcast and the Prisoner. I was in the wilderness fighting my dragons, on a Joseph Campbell's "Hero's Journey."

I became an acrylics artist when my knee replacement became infected then turned sepsis. Only 30% of persons survive these conditions, often with the loss of a leg above the knee. I was in the Federal Medical Center, Administrative Medium custody, which is one of the six prisons with the Butner, NC Correctional Complex, Persons in my condition were put on the Dialysis/Terminal Patient floors. One day, I was invited to go with the terminal cancer patients to an art class, where I learned to paint. What a gift from the Lord! I painted hundreds of paintings inside, donating 41 to the Butner Correctional Complex, many to the hospital. Every brother that went home, dozens of them – I painted them a painting. Many are still close friends.

When my release came, my heart soared yet was saddened. I promised my brothers I would return, that I would change my criminal legacy to serving absolutely those still held captive. I would share my resurrected life in Christ experience, assuring them through God Made Real teaching, that their Holy Spirit greatness cannot be taken away.

The prisoner's question: "Is there any help when I leave this place?"

Persons inside prisons and jails best respond to a person who has experienced what they are going through firsthand, someone who can share from real experiences how "In Christ Alone" transforms. The struggle coming out is where an on-going ministry presents itself as an assembly of specific resources. What encourages the incarcerated is a fact-based, seamless-to their-incarceration reentry into society presented inside. There are scarce availabilities on all levels of help in Broward County, In my prison and as a returning citizen experience, the most essential element to prevent further crime, and thus prevent persons from returning to prison, is "to know His Word and be transformed by His power." Self-sufficiency, by-product of holding a job – fails to launch unless released persons "inspire their communities to live the Resurrected Life in Christ.

David Morgenstern - Credentials

General: As an artist, author, educator, father, fundraiser, husband, minister, visionary and friend, I am in long-term recovery, 13 years of 18 years were behind bars in jails and prisons. Formerly an international criminal who became a Jesus-servant, writing and teaching the God Made Real curriculum changed my legacy.

To bring the resurrected life in Christ to the incarcerated, to shift disenfranchised and vulnerable populations from scarcity to abundance through authentic change – to encourage those suffering, I share my own experiences in Christ, affirming that His healing as a changed life experience is real.

- As a God-Guided **Ordained Minister**, Evangelical Ministerial Association (EMA)
- Member (the certification ministry for the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Orlando, FL) my mission is: No one stays hurt.
- As a **Correctional Chaplain Associate**, sponsored by Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO), the 13th largest jail system in the US, accredited a Member by the American Correctional Chaplains Association (ACCA), I visit as BSO volunteer clergy an average of 30 inmates weekly, meeting the needs of the hurting, in Christ.
- As a **Registered Practitioner, Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc.** (ACPE), accredited as a faith-based clinical pastoral counselor, in leading Christian services, teaching God Made Real and Celebrate Recovery groups six days a week inside all four BSO jails, that collectively hold more than 5,500 inmates;
- As a **Peer-Support Mentor** (certification pending) for the Florida Department of Corrections (FDC), I teach God Made Real at FDC Turning Point Bridge Work Release Camp, in Pompano Beach, FL, and guest-pastored at FDC Everglades Correctional Institution (ECI), Miami, FL; FDC Union Correctional Institution (UIC), Raeford, FL, including Death Row;
- As a **Recovery Ambassador** with Faces and Voices of Recovery, which is an advocacy movement to shift from the "struggle" of recovery as a chronic character defect, to the "healing" of a disease, by providing assistance to individuals suffering from substance use disorders and their families, to live free by choice.
- As a **Justice Ambassador** for Prison Fellowship, which advocates federal and state prison and sentencing reform for the incarcerated, including the First Step Act, Right To Vote, Ban the Box, among other co-laboring with those in full time ministry, and as group leader/coach for "Outrageous Justice" curriculum.
- As **Pastoral Leader for The Refuge Church**, a Calvary Chapel Ft. Lauderdale, FL (CCFTL) satellite, established 15 years ago, situate at LIFENET4FAMILIES, Lauderhill FL, this outreach ministry for the homeless and vulnerable, is also a community service ministry of Calvary House, a 1-year Recovery Reentry CCFTL facility.
- As a **Director of LAST DOOR, INC.** a 501(c)3 non-profit operating in Memphis, TN and Broward County, Florida, which is building a reentry initiative for returning citizens whether from incarceration, substance use disorders, or homelessness, or financial ruin, this is the source code for God Made Real Ministries.
- As **Originator, curriculum writer and teacher**, for God Made Real Ministries, this is Last Door's reentry "Localization" vision designed to shift the disenfranchised and the vulnerable persons' destiny from ruin without hope or reconnection, into being leaders and entrepreneurs in their own local communities;
- As a **Director, Data Forensics**, TINE Advisors, LLC which as a strategic due diligence firm and financial transaction design firm, just completed a formidable study on restructuring the funding for and administration of, a public-private partnership revitalization model for Broward County, FL, that is both localized and ecosystemic.
- As a **Returning Citizen**, I live the to God Made Real and its 4R Practice: *Repair, Reconciliation, Reassurance, Restoration*, as well Respite housing ("Take a Break") for those just reentering society from ruin, to ease into daily challenges that beset these populations, skills-bases training and full employment for reentry persons, so they to can bring forth "self-sufficiency," and advocate the same healing for all Resurrected Life in Christ, mentor others, abide in the gifts of the Holy Spirit, compassionately deeply committed others and their victims.