

Will you work for Him?

Isaiah 61:1-3a:
**LEADING
CAPTIVITY
CAPTIVE**



Greetings faithful partners! Recently our country celebrated Labor Day when we honor the workforce of America. Have you thought about how God originated work with His creation of the heavens, the earth, and man? God Elohim – All Powerful Creator said, *Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them* Gen.1:26,27. Gen. 2:1 states that on the seventh day God finished His work and rested. God wasn't tired. He never tires. He spoke it into existence from nothing. *The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and to keep it* Gen. 2:15. God made man to work and be stewards of His creation. Will you work for Him? The Body of Christ must become equipped to do ministry, wherever God calls us to serve Him. We must be

prepared to tell our salvation story, our testimony. It's the story of when Christ came into your life and changed you to show compassion and concern for the lives of others. Be a friend to the lonely and helpless. Be a listening ear to those who need to share their lives and struggles. Point people to Christ as we pray and trust Him as the only answer to all of our burdens. This is God's work for all who take the name of Christ. Let's ask, "Do you want Him to use your life to work the field of souls all around you?" The results are so fulfilling as we cultivate, sow and water in God's field. He prepares the fields at the Jail by working in lives to convict them of their sin and open their hearts to hear and receive the gift of salvation. God is at work everywhere in people's lives, and He wants us to join Him in His redemptive

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Volunteer of the Month: José Maldonado

Here's an example of one who joins God in His work. I want to highlight volunteer **José Maldonado** who comes in weekly to the field of souls and conducts a Bible study. His housing unit has been opened up to us in the last six months.



In this pod most of the inmates are Hispanic detainees awaiting deportation, but there are others as well. José is bilingual and averages

between 20 to 25 guys. One week he had 11 men respond to the gospel as he shared Christ with them! PTL!!! Lives are held captive by their sin, but Jesus wants to set them free and take them captive to His amazing

love and freedom! Thank you José for your faithful service to work the field of souls at the Polk County Jail.

Tip of the Month:
Working for God brings eternal rewards as we watch lives change.

A captive soul rescued! – Todd Devin

My name is Todd Devin. I was adopted at birth and today I know, and believe God was protecting me from day one. He blessed me with the most loving and caring mother. She was a school teacher who instilled the best morals, values and beliefs to succeed in life. I was raised in church and taught about God and His Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Then high school showed up and I strayed from the path my mom and church showed and taught me. I started running around with the drug crowd and with the first drug I tried

I quit school. I was stealing, lying and running from God as hard and fast as I could. I was fourteen with a lot of hurt and pain. I found myself becoming more and more dishonest especially with the ones who loved me. I was in and out of treatment centers many times. I thought I believed in God, but the fox hole prayers were for all the wrong reasons. I went to prison when I was 26, and was in and out for 28 years. I finally came to the point inside where I had so much pain and hurt with no

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work. Your partnership is making an eternal difference through countless **prayers** and sacrificial **giving** for this

ministry. **Thank you** for partnering with us. Amen!!

In His Service, Chaplain Jerry

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- This year's Banquet Tuesday Oct 1st @ Grace Church 6:00; pray for 300 to attend and that God's Spirit would work in each heart present.
- Prayer for an Assistant Chaplain that he would be called, prepared and revealed.
- The Sheriff's office staff would contemplate their eternity and ask questions.
- A hedge of protection around each volunteer and their families.
- Pray for true repentance, and godly sorrow with those to whom we minister.
- God will stir the hearts of staff, and the incarcerated with the Gospel message as communicated through His Word, faith based books, and other materials.
- Safety for our public servants, the Detention Officers in the Jail, and the Deputies out on patrol as they drive our roads and highways.
- Continued prayer for Edna Hamlin as she's now a widow fighting cancer.
- Prayer for the Dispatchers with all the stressors of their daily responsibilities.
- Those who are disciples would see their personal responsibility to testify, and lead others to Christ. More inmates would then respond to the Gospel because of them.
- Inmate led prayer groups in each housing unit would grow and sow seeds.
- Inmates would awaken to watch Sunday services at 10:00 AM, also that the detention officers would make the services accessible to the inmates.
- More and more local churches would participate in this incredible ministry prayerfully, and financially as a viable mission's effort.
- God will move in the hearts of family members of the incarcerated as they share their new found faith. Then they too will understand the glorious Gospel, and receive the LORD as their Savior!
- Pray that new fall classes at the DOC would be well attended as we seek disciples to grow.
- Prayer for released believers to have the self-discipline to go, and belong to an active Bible believing local church where they will use their spiritual gifts for God's glory. Pray they will find love and acceptance from the congregations.
- Prayer warriors to do battle for the inmate's lives who have strongholds that are generational. They might find victory

and begin a new legacy for their families and future.

- Churches would make available some speaking engagements to share about the ministry and preach the Word.
- God will use the upcoming Christmas event to touch the cold and indifferent hearts of the inmates that don't want anything to do with Christ.

ANSWERS:

- Inmates are leading fellow inmates to Christ! PTL!!!
- Inmate requests have increased significantly each week.
- Many inmates are coming to weekly Bible studies led by volunteers.
- Divine appointments are occurring with one on ones.
- God is faithful to bring back to Jail those who have turned again to their old ways before it's too late.
- Noticeable hunger and thirst for God's Word. I get many Bible requests. PTL!

MOST WANTED:

- 2500 stamps for the two Christmas cards given to each inmate.
- Clothing closet needs: **Men & women's coats & shoes**
- Any of Tony Evans paperback books. Kim Meeder paperback book *Hope Rising*. Paperback books by Victor Marx.

Ministry Monthly Report: September 2024

| | Monthly: | Ytd: |
|------------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Inmate Request: | 843 | 7,480 |
| One-on-One inmate counseling: | 818 | 6,791 |
| Religious reading materials given: | 958 | 7,556 |
| Bible Study groups: | 49 | 413 |
| Inmates involved with studies: | 402 | 3,220 |
| View Worship Service: | 255 | 1,700 |
| Volunteer Hours: | 178 | 1,508 |
| Number of Volunteers: | 25 | 220 |
| Bibles given: | 395 | 3,335 |
| Number of New Believers: | 25 | 160 |

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answers to be found. Here I was at 55 in the Polk County Jail with a possession charge. Five months in County was what God needed. I realized I needed that much time for the Lord to show me I was the problem not life or my addictions. While there it took lots of prayer and lots of Scripture to get me to a decision to surrender the driver's seat in my life to God. I was gaining understanding, knowledge, peace and happiness. I prayed for guidance, strength and smiles every day. Now I am ten months sober and living for the Lord. I realize the blessings are so beautiful in every area of my life. I keep in mind the go, say, and do rule. Don't go where you can't go with God. Don't say what you can't say to God. Don't

do what you can't do with God, and you will live with the Spirit in your heart to stay. I wouldn't be where or who I am today without the work of God. I thank God for the Polk County Jail Ministry!

But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength and shall mount up with wings as eagles. They shall run and not grow weary. They shall walk and not faint. -Isaiah 40:31

Here is another rescued life made possible by faithful partners like you!

Please help support



The Polk County Jail Ministry

THANK YOU for your financial support! Please make checks out to the Polk Co. Jail Ministries Inc. and use the enclosed, self-addressed envelope.