

# **Resurrection! Proof That Jesus Is God!!**

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



Maranatha! Hosanna! Many skeptics have made it their mission to prove Jesus Christ never rose from the dead. One of their theories is that He never died on the cross. He simply faked His death. Another is that the disciples simply stole His body and then proclaimed that He arose. When they gather all the data from various professional sources the evidence is overwhelming that Jesus died from brutal physical torture, and asphyxiation. The spear thrust into His side proved that He was already dead when it broke into the sack around His heart and out came water. The proof goes further when after the resurrection Jesus appeared to all His disciples and over 500 believers (1 Cor 15:1-8). If Christ has not been raised then our preaching is in vain and your faith also is in vain. If the resurrection is a hoax then all of Christianity is like a house of cards that will collapse. The tomb could not keep Him and death could not defeat Him! God's holiness demanded justice which brought about God the Father's perfect plan and solution. It was a holy blood sacrifice in which His Son was the Lamb. You talk about a God who loves! WOW! This thought hit me recently as I was reflecting on these truths in Isaiah 53:10 ***But the LORD was pleased to crush Him, putting Him to grief; if He***

***would render Himself as a guilt offering.*** God's love sent Jesus. His justice killed Jesus, and His mercy exchanged Jesus for me! I'm in awe! How about you?

All of you have made such a huge impact with your powerful prayers and monthly giving. We want you to know how thankful we are for your faithful partnership. You are a significant part of the harvest.

Recently I had some very interesting encounters with inmates who were so open to hearing the good news. They knew that life was empty, and needed something real and satisfying inside. Guys literally came up to me and stated, "I need the Lord. I've tried it my way and it doesn't work." Each one prayed to receive Christ as his Savior and Lord. In another instance a volunteer related that a Bible study attender received Christ, and then began to impact his wife and family with the gospel. Now they share a Bible study over the phone and she began going to church with their kids! The Good News is truly transformational and revolutionary! Amen!

*In His Service,  
Chaplain Jerry*

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**Tip of the Month:** **Resurrection power is available to help us to be overcomers.**

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## **A captive soul rescued!! – Andy Curtis**

I grew up in a family filled with addiction. Don't get me wrong, we had lots of love, but addiction is powerful and more destructive than anything I have ever come across. When I was young I wanted to be a cop, so I could help put away the ones responsible for the drugs that controlled my parents, aunts, uncles, and other family members that were slaves to this. My father never did any of the things that a father is supposed to do. Mom did and took me fishing. My Uncle Jerry and Aunt Tammy took me boating, skiing and camping, but it was always surrounded with drug usage and dealing. At 11 or 12 I started running the streets, smoking weed, cigarettes, and drinking. That's when I first ran away from home. I dropped out of school in the middle of seventh grade because I was often suspended for fighting or jipping

school. I was doing speed, or white crosses, meth, crank, using and selling meth, weed, coke, acid, and everything I could with my father and uncles. I was 13. I remember staying up for the better part of a month as I was already consumed by addiction. When I was 14 my girlfriend got pregnant. Our home was no place for a child so my daughter was raised by my grandparents. As my addiction progressed so did my illegal drug dealing. The following 4 years we had 3 more kids, all boys. I caught my first drug charge in the fall of '93 for possession of marijuana with intent to deliver, but that didn't slow me down. I was a train wreck waiting to happen but the thrill of the ride was all I knew. My father, uncle, and I all got busted the following year. Dad went to state prison, my uncle to the feds, and I lucked out with

***(Continued on back ►)***



## PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pray for the inmates' sensitivity to the things of God; to read their Bibles, belong to a prayer group in their pod, and sign up for Bible study.
- Pray for former inmates to have a continual daily walk with Christ, connect with a Bible based local church, seek a spiritual mentor, find gainful employment, make godly choices, break off ungodly associations, and make contact at the DOC.
- Continued prayer for former Board member David Hamlin and his wife Edna as they battle cancer.
- Prayer for volunteer Jose Maldonado's wife Monique who has a thyroid disease.
- Praise the Lord for favor with the Sheriff's office.
- Prayer for a continued mutual working relationship with the Sheriff's office as we are their privileged guests in the Jail.
- Greater awareness of Sunday services at 10:00 AM and a larger number of inmates would awaken to watch. That pod officers are willing to play it each Sunday.
- Pray for a hunger of God's Word and Christian leaders would step up to lead prayer groups and Bible studies in their pods.
- God will mightily use every precious volunteer as they minister the Word of God.
- The Lord will use the inmates who respond to the gospel and are saved to have a great impact in their families and grow spiritually.
- Each inmate would have an insatiable appetite for God's Word.
- God will keep our public servants, the Detention Officers in the Jail, and Deputies out on patrol safe from harm's way. God will protect the emotional well being of the Sheriff's office staff with all the work related stress with many working over time.
- Brokenness will continue to be evident in those coming to the Polk County Jail, and they will see their ultimate need for a relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Speaking opportunities about the ministry would be available in local churches.
- Wisdom from God for daily decisions with ministry needs that arise.

## ANSWERS:

- Thanksgiving and praise to our GREAT GOD for the indescribable gift of His Son!

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probation. When I was high on meth and acid a year later I caused a car wreck, ran away from the scene, and left a car loaded with drugs for the cops to find. Thanks to the Lord no one was deathly injured. I was eventually caught in a sting operation. While sitting in the Jail for 11 months my third son was born. Two of my sons went to foster care, but I had the choice to give Eric to my Aunt and her husband. Only 3 months later Eric died due to shaken baby by my Aunt's husband. You are never supposed to bury a child. I remember going to the funeral shackled, cuffed and saw my son in his casket. He looked like a porcelain doll. My family couldn't even hug me for comfort. All I could do was to hang my head and cry. I carried guilt then and still do to this very day. I should have been there. If I was there he would still be here. A month later I got out of Jail on a technicality. Soon I was busted again and at 22 I went to prison for the first time. I served two years, got out and conceived another daughter. I was a 24 y/o junkie, and Mom saw the track marks up and down my arms. I overdosed, and fell through my Mom's screen door. My family was devastated, and I went back to prison. I had several more busts for a total of 20-30 times in Jail, and 6 prison sentences. My last time in Jail was 01/14/23. I bowed my head with Chaplain Jerry and accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. I cried out to Him for His guidance, knowledge, and to understand words in

- Lots of clothes and shoes have been donated. Thanks to all who have participated.
- Noticeable favor from the Sheriff's administration with our ministry opening up the South end of the Jail for Bible studies like our pre-covid days!
- Breaking down strongholds in the inmates' lives.
- We see how faithfully sowing God's Word through the distribution of Bibles has impacted the Jail population. Inmate leaders are carrying out the Great Commission as they step up and minister to fellow inmates!! To Him be all glory, honor, and praise!! AMEN!!!

## MOST WANTED:

- Paperback books from Jim Cymbala, Gary Smalley, Tony Evans, Gary Chapman, Steve Farrah and Terri Blackstock.
- Continued need for paperback Christian Hispanic reading materials.

## Ministry Monthly Report: April 2024

	Monthly:	Ytd:
Inmate Request:	874	3,313
One-on-One inmate counseling:	800	2,943
Religious reading materials given:	947	3,023
Bible Study groups:	51	168
Inmates involved with studies:	400	1,160
View Worship Service:	232	725
Volunteer Hours:	170	647
Number of Volunteers:	25	95
Bibles given:	432	1,389
<b>Number of New Believers:</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>50</b>

the Bible. Never could I make sense of what I read previously. Now after accepting Christ I can understand it as easily as when I read a child's book. I used to feel more comfortable walking into Jail or prison than into a church, but not any more. Crazy right? We all have a purpose in this life, and after all these years I have come to find mine is right in front of me. If you're reading this you are my purpose. I hope what you have heard from my story has touched, moved, and inspired you to ask our Lord Jesus Christ into your heart and life. I'll trust that He will lead you to find your purpose. I am seeing what's most important in my life. Our Lord and Savior, my sobriety is given through Him, and the relationship with my children, family, and better half Shelly is given by the Lord. It's all built on His foundation. John 3:27 **A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given to him from Heaven.** Today the light I live in keeps the darkness and its shadows out of sight. God bless and amen!

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.**