



Violence brought death - God brings eternal life

Greetings friends! God's rescue mission is to those who are battered and torn by life's relentless hazards. He called me to serve these men and women. I became a missionary who is not paid by the city, state or county to the incarcerated, and the Sheriff's Office staff. We have the Good News of deliverance from our sins to proclaim! You enter the trenches with me. **THANK YOU** for your partnership, and belief that God will use the Polk County Jail Ministry to impact lives for His glory!! What a blessing you are!

Over the last year the *Discipleship Outreach Center* (DOC) location has been under restoration. The Lord impressed on me if you build it they will come. He's provided a warm and inviting facility that's beautifully decorated so they feel at home. This is a place of love and peace not chaos and duress. We're getting the word out, sowing the seed, and believing God will bring lasting fruit from our labors of love. God does amazing interventions in the lives of inmates! As I stood in front of a pod entrance a handcuffed inmate approached and asked if I was the Chaplain and would I come into the pod to see him? He told me he was desperate and really needed to talk. He stated his life was a wreck from drug

usage, and his family was very violent. His dad, uncle, and cousin all killed their wives, and then took their own lives. All three were active Hell's Angels. These were fresh, huge losses he was trying to process and grieve. He said, "I love my wife, but she is scared to death of our family's violence, so she left me." With tears flowing down his face he stated, "My life is empty, and I don't want to end up like them. I want to stop the cycle and have a normal life." He gave his life to Jesus Christ, and what peace came over him! Another man came right up who had been to Jail before and knew me. He had been kicked out of his Dad's home because he relapsed and used due to a crisis in his life. He was sick of coming back to Jail and the constant in and out cycle. I told him the answer is found in a relationship with Jesus Christ. You must place your trust in the finished work of Christ's death on the cross. Jesus paid for our debt of sin. This man also prayed to receive Him! What holy moments with these men and God as I watched them both become a child of God! **AMEN!!!**

In His service, *- Chaplain Jerry*

A HIGHLIGHT FOR THE MONTH:

On August 9th Patty and I celebrated 48 years of marriage! The Bible states **He who finds a wife finds what is good** Proverbs 18:22. Patty was brought to me by the Lord in June of 1974 at a Des Moines coffee house. I was the guest speaker, and she introduced herself to me. We talked that night and became fast friends. We married on her parent's farm in northern Iowa 14 months later. She's not only a good gift from the Lord, I call her



God's Best!!! Honey, I love you!!!! Thanks for all you do to help me in ministry, and your personal sacrifice of time to free me to minister the love of Christ to others. What a treasure you are to me, to our children and grandchildren. I am truly blessed to have shared these 48 years with you. I thank the Lord for you, and for the life we've shared together!

Tip of the Month: *The One to whom we pray brings hope out of despair and beauty out of ruin. Prayer is how we participate in the transforming work He's doing.*



Christopher Reeves – One of the Harvest!

My name is Christopher Reeves and I am 40 years old. I've been through Polk County more times than I can count with an addiction that was very severe. I was raised on a farm outside Indianola though I've lived in the Des Moines area for most of my life. Throughout my addiction I robbed friends, businesses, and basically

tried to make money however I could. Throughout my addiction and in frequent stays at Polk County I ran into Chaplain Jerry numerous times. He prayed with me about different situations in my life some severe some not. For the last couple months I finally found Jesus and turned my life over to Him. Now I'm doing whatever I can to help others find recovery. In this process I also discovered my recovery family called Sober Soldierz. This family

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PRAYER REQUESTS:

- You'll not want to miss this year's banquet! Come hear how the Harvest is Plentiful in the Jail and with the Sheriff's Office staff. Men and women's hearts are broken and open to the transforming power of the Holy Spirit who changes lives. Pray that the Holy Spirit anoints the guest speaker and testimonies on Tuesday Oct. 3rd at Grace Church 6:00 PM. Please pray for a great turnout of 300 plus.
- We mail out over 500 newsletters to our partners. Would you each make it a goal to come to the banquet? You'll get a first hand look at what God is doing through this amazing ministry in changing lives and hear about the progress of the DOC.
- Pray many businesses would sponsor a table at the banquet for \$250.
- Continued prayer for Dave Hamlin, and his wife Edna battling cancer.
- Please pray for volunteer Jose Maldonado with post hernia mesh surgery and complications.
- Pray for an Assistant Chaplain who is burdened and called to the PCJ Ministry to work 15 to 20 hours a week. He will eventually replace me in the next two to three years.
- Pray our nation and communities would be more supportive of all law enforcement.
- The health and well being of all volunteers and their families for protection and wisdom in doing life these days.
- Prayer for discernment in spiritual warfare with the enemy.
- God will use our ministry presence with the Jail population and the Sheriff's office staff to touch lives with the Gospel.
- Safety for our public servants the Detention Officers in the Jail, and those Deputies out on patrol and the Dispatchers who handle thousands of calls.
- God would cause brokenness to new Jail arrivals and a hunger for His Word.
- More volunteer Bible studies would begin in the South end of the Jail where it's off limits, and more inmates would reach others for Christ in their pods.
- More inmates would attend the volunteer led Bible studies conducted weekly.
- Sunday services at 10:00 A.M. would be greatly attended as a larger number of inmates would awaken to watch. The detention officers would support the benefits to the inmates as they watch the services.
- An awakening of local churches and individuals to participate in this incredible ministry prayerfully, and financially as a viable mission's effort. More direct contacts with Pastors to tell the ministry story for prayer and financial support.
- Those inmates who have gone off to prisons or back to the streets would stay faithful to Jesus Christ and His Word, be active in

sharing their faith, and attend a local church. Pray they would find churches open to receive them, so they can fellowship with others and grow stronger in their walk.

- Prayer for fruit from the seeds sown at the DOC that will begin to be evident by response and participation. Pray for this fall as we start up some classes and family events.
- All of us would remain watchful, thankful, and deliberate in our service for Christ.
- A revival in America, and may it start in the Jails and Prisons across our country.
- All of us in this ministry would go deeper with the Lord in our private time with Him.

ANSWERS:

- Greater numbers of inmates are coming to the Bible studies.
- The Holy Spirit is doing a mighty work with His power.
- Favor with the Sheriff's office.
- Lives are changing through genuine repentance.
- The DOC has experienced so many direct answers to our prayers with His provision.
- Praise and thanksgiving to God for all that He does in orchestrating the details and events of this ministry daily!

MOST WANTED:

- We can always use stamps!
- Ten copies in paper back of *The Prayer of Jabez*.

Ministry Monthly Report: August 2023

	Monthly:	Ytd:
Inmate Request:	940	6,822
One-on-One inmate counseling:	764	5,755
Religious reading materials given:	967	6,435
Bible Study groups:	41	312
Inmates involved with studies:	271	1,893
View Worship Service:	200	1,778
Volunteer Hours:	173	1,316
Number of Volunteers:	22	181
Bibles given:	370	2,737
Number of New Believers:	19	133

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helped me with a sober place to stay while I awaited treatment. When I was in treatment they would come every Sunday for group to share their life experiences and how they found God. They basically taught me that Jesus in recovery must come first, and that recovery isn't a one-size-fits-all. I've tried Narcotics Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous and even Celebrate Recovery. Unfortunately their 12-step programs just weren't what I needed. What I needed was to kneel at an altar, and pray before I started treatment. I basically just gave my life to the Lord and asked Him to help take away the burden and suffering of my addiction. In doing that I'm still sober to this day, and coming up on 70 days sober. I have not had this much time of sobriety by choice in almost 15 years. Again I thank Pastor Jerry, TJ, Cody,

the rest of the Sober Soldierz family, and most importantly God Himself for helping bring my life back to order and to be an outstanding citizen of society.

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

Thank you! -Chaplain Jerry

**Please help
support**



**The
Polk County Jail
Ministry**

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