

# Are You Experiencing God?

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



Shalom my friends! Knowing and doing the will of God leads us to experience God first hand, and then brings us into a more intimate love relationship with Him. Knowing the will of God comes by saturating ourselves in His Word. As we read it the next step is obedience to His revealed will for our lives. This is how we have an encounter or an experience with God. Are you reading His Word to obey it or are you neglecting your own personal encounter with God? He created you to know and love Him. What a huge privilege to be a vessel He might use for His glory! Life with my heavenly Father is a daily discovery for me as I seek to know and do His will. Please join me in this adventure of a lifetime that changes you, me, and then changes the world. God called me

to serve men and women. I became a missionary nineteen years ago 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!

Over the last year the Discipleship Outreach Center (DOC) location has been under its final restorations. The Lord impressed on me if you build it they will come. The facility He's provided is a warm and inviting place that's beautifully decorated so people 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

*(Continued on back ►)*

## Celebrating a life of service: David Lee Hamlin

David Lee Hamlin went home to be with the Lord last Friday August 23rd after a long fight with cancer. The ministry was incredibly blessed to have David serve as a volunteer and Board member for 10 years. David did one on one's with inmates who had recently received the Lord for follow-up and discipleship. He was a good listener who gave insight and a different perspective from the law enforcement side. He had retired from the



Urbandale Police Department as Chief after 34 years of distinguished service. He touched countless lives and often would lead an inmate to Christ who sought him out in the housing units. David was humorous and famous for his one liners. He also was a valuable part of the leadership of the Jail Ministry as he served faithfully on the Board of directors even while fighting cancer. He was a very good friend of mine who encouraged, and gave wise counsel to me. We will all miss his influence!

**Tip of the Month: Faith must be tested, because it can only become your intimate possession through conflict – Oswald Chambers**

## A captive soul rescued! – Kristina Bohnenkamp

I was raised in dysfunction. Abuse was what I knew, saw, and was subjected to from a young age. I ran away from home at 11, was addicted to drugs at 13, became a mom at 14, and emancipated at 15. My childhood was stripped away, and the void was a gaping wound. I had a loving mother and was guided to God by my great grandmother. Despite that I was lost. I tried to make it, but the addiction was too great. When my child died at the age of 15, I didn't know how to manage another deep wound. I abandoned my family and went

to the depth of heavy drugs to mask all the pain. I lost my three other children, and began making meth to survive. My mom prayed for a change in my life and God answered. I was picked up and charged with 25 years in federal prison. For two years I sat angry and depressed in my cell, and medications did not work. I knew the only way I could get through this was to get back to Christ. I finally took myself to the chapel and gave my life over to Christ. I was

*(Continued on back ►)*



(Continued from front ▼)

labors of love. You literally enter the trenches with me when you pray. Together we get to experience a God who is at work in lives to reveal Himself to the world. 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! **Thank you!**

In His Service, Chaplain Jerry

## PRAYER REQUESTS:

- **You'll not want to miss this year's banquet!** Come hear how the LORD Jesus Christ is **Leading Captivity Captive**. Men and women's hearts have become open and broken to the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. Pray that He anoints the guest speaker and testimonies. It's Tuesday Oct.1st at Grace Church 6:00 PM. Please pray for a great turnout of 300 plus.
- We mail out nearly 600 newsletters to our partners, and email another 125. Would you each make it a goal to come to the banquet this year? 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 - Discipleship Outreach Center.
- Pray many businesses would sponsor a table at the banquet for \$250.
- Pray for an Assistant Chaplain who is burdened and called to the PCJ Ministry to eventually replace me in the next one to two years.
- Pray that our nation and communities would be more supportive of all law enforcement.
- The health and well being of all volunteers and their families. 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 Deputies out on patrol and the Dispatchers who handle thousands of calls.
- God would cause a brokenness in new inmates and a hunger for His Word.
- More inmates would attend the volunteer led Bible studies conducted weekly.
- Sunday services at 10:00 AM 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 be evident by response and participation. Pray for this fall as we start up some classes for parenting. God would produce a crowd that would stimulate interest.
- All of us would remain watchful, thankful, and deliberate in our service for Christ.
- May a revival in America 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:

- 2500 stamps as we approach our Christmas event.
- Several copies of any soft cover Troy and Kim Meeder books. Hope Rising.
- Men's Shoes, all sizes.
- Paperback books by Victor Marx.

## Ministry Monthly Report: August 2024

	Monthly:	Ytd:
Inmate Request:	842	6,637
One-on-One inmate counseling:	803	5,973
Religious reading materials given:	884	6,598
Bible Study groups:	49	364
Inmates involved with studies:	409	2,818
View Worship Service:	133	1,445
Volunteer Hours:	156	1,330
Number of Volunteers:	26	195
Bibles given:	369	2,940
<b>Number of New Believers:</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>135</b>

(Continued from front ▼)

faithful to read, study, and build a relationship with God to become who I needed to be. With God's favor, after 13.5 years I was released. I maintained sobriety, drug free living, and a life with Jesus for two years. I began making poor choices and decisions that were destructive, lost my way, and took drugs once again. I stopped checking in with my Parole Officer and was on the run. God stepped in again. I got pulled over and was in jail for four months, and four more months in prison followed. I knew I had to get it right this time. I quickly dug into the resources of Chaplain Jerry, volunteers, Bible classes, and in the Word to find myself in Christ again. I was eventually

released and am now focused on building my solid foundation in Jesus. I am working while seeking direction on how I can continue to encourage others in Christ. I want to share my testimony on how God has been faithful and working all things out for my good and His glory.

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.**