



THE Exodus Epistle

FALL NEWSLETTER 2017

A PUBLICATION OF EXODUS PRISON MINISTRY ■ 4243 34TH ST., LUBBOCK, TX 79410

OUT OF BONDAGE, INTO NEW LIFE, BY WAY OF THE CROSS.

Letters From Our Students

I am currently serving a 30 year term for armed robbery. During my incarceration I've done just about everything. I was a thrill seeker and drug abuser.

Before my incarceration, I was a gang banger from California and Washington state. I've experienced what most people only see in movies. I thought my life was normal. I thought that the things that ran through my head were normal. For the first time in my life, being in prison is where I felt normal.

Then one day I was out in the yard with a friend, and he introduced me to Jesus Christ. After that day, everything that felt normal was now awkward. I've made a few bad decisions since then, but nothing detrimental or anything. I still struggle with myself on a daily basis, but the difference is Jesus is with me, He is my hope. He is my focus. He is my joy. He is my future. He saved me, a heathen unworthy of anything. He flipped my world right side up.

I am now in my calling as a lead facilitator in Celebrate Recovery Inside, and also have a calling for seminary, but that day will come when God opens that door. I thank God for sending His Son for me.

Thank you for your time. ■

-D. Krikoriaw, Winnfield, LA

“ I still struggle with myself on a daily basis, but the difference is Jesus is with me. ”

I have been in church since my childhood on and off. Since my teenage years, I had really lost my faith though. I am 34 now. Well, since coming back to prison for my sixth time, I signed up for the P.A.L. program (a faith-based live-in one-year program) thinking it would look good when I go up in front of the parole board and they would approve my parole. I was going up within that month. Little did I know God had a different plan.

I told God, thinking He would see it my way, “God, just to let you know even if they give me parole denial I will finish this program, but please let me make it.” As you can see, I'm still here. What I didn't know was God knew I was wavering in my faith and made me eat my words. The parole board gave me a one-year denial.

And even though this might sound crazy, it was a blessing. I am now 2 months into the year, my faith is renewed, and I'm closer to God than have ever been. It's like the old country song says, some of God's greatest gifts are unanswered prayers. If I would have made parole, I'd been right back to my old ways. I thank God every day for this extra time with Him. It is just what I needed.

Thank God and thank you for your Bible studies. ■

-J. Long, Tucker, AR

I have been a Christian since I was a child but have gone through many phases where at sometimes I am much more serious than others. I have read the Bible several times but never actually studied it. I would like to be a better, more knowledgeable Christian so that I can follow the ways better and help to spread the Word to others. ■

-T. Foster, Beaumont, TX

Exodus Prison Ministry is an all-volunteer mission reaching prisoners across America with the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Christian literature.

Letters from Our Students:

I was hooked on crystal meth and in a very abusive relationship. As I sat at my desk where I sold my drugs, I was watching my TV. It was on a Christian station and the man was asking if you feel trapped or alone and feel like there is no one you can talk to or have no options and feel like giving up. I felt all those things and said aloud with a laugh, "Mister you have no idea."

It was then that he informed me that he had an answer. I said aloud the short prayer accepting Jesus as my Lord and Savior. Nothing happened. So I said, "God I said the prayer, what's up? If you wanted me, then why didn't I feel something? I said 'I quit.' It's all on You. I can't do it." It was then I felt it. It was indescribable. I started crying for what I don't know but it felt awesome. I started talking to God aloud and said fix me, change my path, I don't know how. Less than 30 hours later I was in handcuffs, charged with a list of felonies. I was looking at 16 years on one case and 4.5 and 10.25 years on the other three cases.

God took me out of the situation I was in. Not what I thought, but who am I to question God. Two cases were dropped and I pled to 6 years on the one case and 3.5 on the other. I served concurrent sentences and I now am clean and sober for 6 years and have a faith-based relationship with a woman who encourages me and we plan to be married upon my release in October 2017. Praise God for knowing what you need when you don't. Thank you for letting me tell my story. God bless. ■

- C. Felter, Florence, AZ

**“ And here I am now,
trying to seek for answers
and truth. Please help me. ”**

I was a Master Mason. I got in an accident and lost some of my memory. I could not remember what lodge I belonged to. I was a Muslim for some years, but there was doubt and something missing in my heart. I am a member of the Fraternity Rosy Cross (Rosarian) but don't know about that too.

I prayed with two Christian brothers Jimmy and Jay. I asked God to guide me towards the right path and to please make it clear to me in a vision, dream, etc.

Next morning I went to the library and a little book called Revelation from your ministry stuck out to me and that's how I got your address. And here I am now, trying to seek for answers and truth. Please help me.

Thanks for your time and God bless. ■

-N. Castillo, Coleman, FL



A Note from the Director

- Carol Jean Blakely

CHRISTIANS NEVER KNOW
WHOSE LIFE GOD WILL
ALLOW US TO STEP INTO
OR WHO WILL STEP INTO
OURS.

THAT'S ONE OF THE UNIQUE
AND INSPIRING WONDERS OF
BEING A CHRISTIAN.

It's easy to forget. God doesn't
value a far off there more than an
ordinary here.

Yes a few are called to go, but most
are called to stay (the kitchen, an
office, a classroom, a prison cell or
the rec yard) and this is not a lesser
calling.

We do not have to go anywhere but
to Him in order for us to be useful in
His Kingdom.

YOUR MISSION IS WHEREVER
YOU ARE.

TO DONATE ONLINE,
SCAN HERE OR VISIT OUR
WEBSITE:

<http://www.exodusprisonministry.org>



Exodus Prison Ministry is an all-volunteer mission reaching prisoners across America with the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Christian literature.

Designated Gifts

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Gary Hardy
Rolande Bassett
Charles & Carol Clough
Lucia McBrayer
Joseph Foye
Lydia Sunday School Class

Ministry Facts:

January - June 2017

ENROLLMENTS SENT	1,946
FIRST LESSONS SENT	1,127
BIBLES SENT	161
LESSON PACKETS SENT	7,298
CURRENT STUDENTS	2,311
R.S.V.P. HOURS	5,268
<i>30 active volunteers</i>	
GRADUATES:	511
BIRTHDAY CARDS SENT	1,223

The Word of God Speaks

“Father, I pray that they can be one. As you are in me and I am in you, I pray that they can also be one in us. Then the world will believe that you sent me.”

- John 17:21

Bible Word Search

Shout to the Lord all the earth. Serve the Lord with joy; come before him with singing. Know that the Lord is God. He made us and we belong to Him; we are his people, the sheep he tends. - Psalm 100:1-3

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE:

SHOUT	GOD	SINGING
LORD	BELONG	TENDS
SERVE	PEOPLE	SHEEP
JOY		

G G X Q M J H X C T R I E O S
 F N Y W H B Q L T H K C J E H
 Q N I R S Y F C D U Q A Z W E
 Y W H G I Q X B M U T Z T H E
 N F T L N S H O U T A X O X P
 I G P M P I Q G E J U X D Q Q
 R E U E W E N S N O L E J S Y B
 C N T C N V D O J X I W C H U
 D P C S N S J L R R O N I L J
 C A R G B K V E S A E D O G Q
 L W B G R B X B S E P P S G L
 H J H M U G U W G E R I P I N
 V S I Q I Y T L B J V V K V L
 R O L K J A V O L M T F E O F
 K Q M H X H E H S C K W I S U
 M M N S W L J E F I G T R H H
 C Q Y D P F X O Y E Q N K V I
 Q X E O R Y I O O L W N I B I
 N H E O X O T W J G A Z P V Y
 O P L I V X L P J F N M N D P
 B D H T R A E D I L L E O U R
 G M S M C G Y Q S Q D G Y G X
 D D L H E M D W O C D Y S Y Z
 C A T P N M P L E H C L U Q T
 B S V J L A Y E Y C D P A H T

Incorporated in 1983, this non-profit all-volunteer Christian ministry reaches prisoners with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and disciples them through Christian literature. Exodus Prison Ministry provides a free, 35-book Bible correspondence study course to prisoners across the United States. Louisiana Baptist University and some other Bible colleges give college credits for the Exodus studies. The home office is in Lubbock, TX. Volunteers in a branch office in Tulia, TX minister to inmates in the Tulia unit.

The Mission Statement of Exodus Prison Ministry



With an all-volunteer staff and through a comprehensive 35-book Bible correspondence program, our mission of serving the Lord Jesus Christ is to:

REACH - Introduce prisoners and others to Christ.

TEACH - Educate believers in principles of Christian living.

ENCOURAGE - Encourage offenders, ex-offenders and family members of inmates to be faithful and consistent in living according to Christian principles and to share their testimony with others.

Important factors to note:

- All study materials are provided free to inmates and Chaplains.
- Nothing is sold. All work is made possible through donations from Christians who care and believe in the power of God to change lives.
- All work is done by volunteers. No one receives a salary or any form of monetary compensation.
- Funds are carefully and prayerfully used to carry out The Great Commission of Jesus Christ to His followers.

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Carol Jean Blakely

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