|  |
| --- |
|  |
| **Our Quarterly Newsletter *April – June 2016*** |
|  |

**Disciple of Christ Ministries**



273 Newport Ave Unit 2, Quincy, MA 02170-1727

Website: [www.DiscipleofChristMinistries.org](http://www.DiscipleofChristMinistries.org) Email: [Office@DiscipleofChristMinistries.org](mailto:Office@DiscipleofChristMinistries.org) Phone: 617-237-9607

*From the Desk of Brother Doc*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Here we are once again and it time for our next newsletter. I pray that everyone is in a well spirited place, and that the Light of Christ is shining through you lighting the path for those who need His light. I hope that everyone had a blessed Easter and was able to share the Resurrection of Christ to someone God had placed in your path.

For those who are receiving this newsletter for the first time, I thank and praise God for guiding our ministry into your hands, so we can share the vision God gave me during my own incarceration. Disciple of Christ Ministries was founded in June 2012 after I was reminded by the Holy Spirit while attending a small group Bible Study with the Church I attend. (Glad Tidings Church). I still say today that God led me to this Church, as it was only days after my release I met with the Pastor and sat down with him and discussed my new found life of a Christian. God speaks to me through the sermons and my fellow brothers and sisters of the congregation, many times I will be working on the newsletter and choose Scripture for use in the publication only to go to church and hear the pastor speaking on the very same Scriptures.

Well, as I sat down to put this newsletter together I took some time to spend in prayer and meditation seeking Gods message to share with all of you who are seeking God guidance. The message given to us by James who is believed to be Jesus’ brother who calls himself a servant of God and of our Lord Jesus Christ (James 1:1) came to my heart. As we look into the first chapter of James we read of how we can turn our Trials into Triumph (*Trials and Temptations James 1:2-18*) & (*Listening and Doing James 1:19-27*) I thought that after my last message of how to live a life with Christ behind the wall and with principles, I would share how God worked in my walk both while I was incarcerated and after.

I remember the first time I read the Epistle of James while I was incarcerated, it gave me hope of becoming what God had already had planned for my life. It gave me hope that I could turn my life around and be a grateful servant of God and put my trials into messages of hope. Some of the information I came across while studying James chapter 1 made me feel that James was talking directly to me as I had already given my life and will over to God and accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior. It explained to me how to turn my trials and tribulation into victory for Christ, by sharing what he has done to change the person I had become.

I am no different than you or all those whom God chooses to share with us throughout the Bible. I am not proud of how I got to the point of incarceration but, grateful God put me right where I needed to be. Today, I live to give God all the glory for the works he has done in my life. Everything that has played out in my life already had God’s handprints and guidance, I just wasn’t able to see it before the scales were taken from my eyes. I became a humble person behind the wall and did a lot of soul searching. It took me straight to the Bible and then I started to read The Word of God. After partaking in many Bible studies I was able to see hope in my life and started to have faith in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

So as a fellow Christian Brother I would like to share my Testimony with everyone who receives this newsletter, and share how I turned a vision into a mission of serving God. How I took many trials and turned them into messages of hope to those who seek God. How we continue to answer the call to serve Gods people no matter where they are located, and most importantly seeking His lost and forgotten sheep.

Hopefully my testimony will be uplifting and beneficial in building your faith in serving God in everything you do. It is only by my faith in the Lord Jesus Christ this ministry was formed, and by His mercy and grace I was set free from my bondage.

Dennis Dockham



*Brother Doc; Founder/Faithful Servant*

As I was growing up we lived in the J.P. section of Boston then we moved to Dorchester while I was in 2nd grade. Living through the forced bussing issues within the city of Boston as I attended Middle School, going on to be a student advocate while in High School. I was always getting involved in serving others and volunteering in many organizations throughout my twenties.

Married April 1989, I moved to Quincy, MA where I fathered my Son Kevin in 1993 and my Daughter Christine in 1996. Still given a lot of time to helping others through many organizations, I started to drift away from serving people to how great I was. As my life became more business oriented and grew into middle management, so did my principles. No longer a servant but a self-centered arrogant money hungry person, my life started to be unmanageable. Alcohol and gambling became part of my daily routine, and I fell into addiction of earthy ways. Then in February 2006 I was arrested as a direct result of my alcohol use.

Over the next 2 years of court proceedings, divorce, and giving up on life, I was ready to throw in the towel and began praying to the God I was told had no use for me. I was pleading nightly for God to take my life away and end my pain. Once again being selfish and only caring about my pain and not anyone else’s pain. In April 2008 I was sentenced to 5 years in the House of Correction, my life was over, and my eyes covered by scales.

Once I was incarcerated I started looking for God, asking why He did not take my life which I prayed for so many nights over the 2 years of my court proceedings. I had hit rock bottom. I was the lowest type of person I thought you could be: a sentenced criminal. I ended up in a place I never thought I would ever be: “in jail”. After the shock of being in jail that first week, I fell to my knees and cried out to God asking for answers of how this could be. Then for the very first time I felt a presence upon me. I heard “come to Me and give yourself over to me, and I will stand with you.” At first I was scared, and did not understand the things that started to come to me in visions and thoughts, some I still cannot explain today.

As I started to search my deepest thoughts, I picked up a Bible and joined a Bible Study group that was run by a Christian brother who had been coming into the jail for well over 10 years. I started to understand more of what the feelings I had within me and how it affected my earthly ways of living in the flesh.

Now seeing the changes, I needed to make in my life, how could I do this myself? Me, self-centered and arrogant, thinking I was better than everyone else? Well, God knew what he was doing, placing me right where I needed to be at this point in my life. That Bible study has forever changed my life because I came to know Jesus as my Lord and Savior, and that He died on a cross for a sinner like me, who was undeserving of what He had done on the cross so I could live with Him in eternity.

I realized that without God in my life, I would always be the same. So once again I fell to my knees, this time to turn my life over to Christ asking for His forgiveness and seeking His wisdom, becoming born-again on Oct 27, 2008. On this day I really felt His presence within my soul and my eyes became open to the Light of Christ. This was the start of a life changing way of living that would become my daily walk with Christ.

Since my release November 2011, from the House of Correction, I have taken the wisdom of God’s Word and put it into practice in my daily walk, being obedient in serving my Lord and Savior, humbly serving those who are out there lost and shackled in bondage. I shared my story of a broken, unwanted, despised individual who only thought the way out was death. Now in full repentance, I am seeking truth and striving to walk in the Light of Christ, surrendering all my faults over to God daily, praying for those fleshly behaviors, to never return again in my life.

Allowing the Holy Spirit to direct and guide me, I proclaimed my faith in the power of resurrection by a Full Immersion Baptism on March 25, 2012, confessing to all my rebirth in Christ as written in scripture. I praise God every night for my salvation from my sins and for His daily guidance He provides to me through prayer and meditation time. Remember I mention about pleading for Him to take my life? Well, I am happy that God saw, but had different plans for me. Yes, God took my life as I surrendered to his calling. I became a new creation in Christ Jesus, humbly living my life as a faithful servant. I strive to glorify God in everything I do, using my God given gifts, reaching out to the lost and forgotten through a ministry that was put on my heart by God in a vision while still incarcerated. By putting my faith in Christ, the foundations of Disciple of Christ Ministries was formed in June 2012, which is currently serving over 150 inmates across the United States through our Pen Pals for Jesus Ministry.

|  |
| --- |
| A Servant of God  And The Lord Jesus Christ  James 1:1 |
|  |

INTRODUCTION

1. We concluded that James, the Lord’s brother, was most likely the author

2. If this is so, then it is interesting that James does not identify himself as such, but rather as simply “a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ” - Jam 1:1

3. Perhaps it was a case of humility; yet, calling himself a “servant” was not peculiar to James...

1. Paul described himself as such as well - Rom 1:1; Ph 1:1
2. So did Peter (2 Pe 1:1) and Jude (Ju 1)

4. Why did these men refer to themselves as “servants” ...?

1. The Greek term (doulos) literally means “a slave”
2. Why use such a term to describe themselves?
3. And why should we think of ourselves as “servants”?

*[In this lesson, I shall explain why, and make some other observations concerning the idea of being a servant. [First of all...]*

**I. BEING A SERVANT IS WHAT A DISCIPLE OF JESUS IS CALLED TO BE**

A. JESUS STRESSED THIS TRUTH ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS...

1. While pointing out the faults of the scribes and Pharisees - Mt 23:8-12
2. During the Last Supper, with a vivid demonstration of servitude - Jn 13:12-17
3. Even by His own example, as He came to serve - Mt 20:25-28; Ph 2:5-8

B. SPECIFICALLY, WE ARE CALLED TO SERVE...

1. God - Ja 1:1; He 9:14
2. Jesus Christ - Ja 1:1; 1 Co 4:1
3. Righteousness - Ro 6:17-18
4. Each other - Ga 5:13; 1 Co 9:19-23

*[The early Christians called themselves “servants”, because that is what they were! But what is so good about being a “servant”? For one thing...]*

**II. BEING A SERVANT IS A MARK OF SPIRITUAL MATURITY**

A. AN IMMATURE PERSON IS USUALLY VERY SELFISH...

1. 1.For example, newborn babies are very egocentric
2. Normally, as people grow older, they begin to concern themselves with the needs of others.
3. If they do, they are becoming mature.
4. If they remain selfish, it is an indication of immaturity

B. A PERSON WHO SERVES OTHERS...

1. Is certainly not selfish, but concerned with the needs of others
2. And thereby demonstrates mature behavior

C. JAMES’ DESCRIPTION OF HIMSELF FITS IN VERY WELL WITH THE THEME OF HIS EPISTLE...

1. Remember, the theme is: Marks of Spiritual Maturity
2. By being a servant, James is demonstrating his own spiritual maturity
3. And we can make the point that one of the marks of spiritual maturity is truly being “a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ”!

*[Are we trying to be servants of God, and of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ? If so, then we are on the road to spiritual maturity! But before we answer too hastily, let’s consider that...]*

**III.BEING A SERVANT HAS SEVERAL IMPLICATIONS**

A. IT IMPLIES “ABSOLUTE OBEDIENCE” ...

* 1. In a slave-master relationship...
  2. The slave knows no law but his master’s word

1. He has no rights of his own
2. He is the absolute possession of his master
3. He is bound to give his master unquestioning obedience
4. Does this describe our relationship to Christ?
5. It should, especially in light of 1 Co 6:19-20
6. We have to come to Jesus on HIS terms, not our own - Lk 6:46; Mt 7:21

B. IT IMPLIES “ABSOLUTE HUMILITY”

1. Otherwise, absolute obedience is not possible
   1. When we have a humble opinion of ourselves, we are receptive to the idea of complete obedience
   2. For example, consider Paul’s self-estimation - 1 Co 15:9-10; Ep 3:8; 1 Ti 1:15
2. Does this describe our relationship to Christ and His Will?
3. Jesus said it should! - Lk 17:10
4. But if we murmur or complain about what Jesus tells us to do, can we really be considered “servants”?

C. IT IMPLIES “ABSOLUTE LOYALTY”

1. Since we become servants freely, it should be expected that we:
2. Are to be loyal to Him first - cf. Ga 1:10
3. Do not consider our own profit or preference important, but that of the One we freely serve!
4. But it is amazing how anyone can claim to be servants of the Lord Jesus Christ, while:
5. Complaining about having to do the will of God
6. Being negligent or slothful in carrying out His will
7. But some act as though they are being forced against their own will!
8. They don’t “have to” serve the Lord Jesus...
9. Of course, the alternative is not very inviting
10. If we don’t serve Jesus, by default we serve Satan, and are destined for hell!
11. But God by His grace has offered salvation, and how dare we ever grumble or complain that He calls us to life of service in grateful appreciation!

*[These are some of the implications of being called a “servant”. It is costly in terms of service, pride, and allegiance. But consider also that...]*

**IV. BEING A SERVANT IS A GREAT HONOR**

A. FAR FROM BEING A TITLE OF DISHONOR, IT WAS THE TITLE BY WHICH THE GREATEST MEN OF THE OLD TESTAMENT WERE KNOWN...

1. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob - Deu 9:27 (“Thy servants”)
2. Moses - 1 Kin 8:53 (“Thy servant”)
3. Joshua - Josh 24:29 (“Servant of the Lord”)
4. Caleb - Num 14:24 (“My servant”)
5. Job - Job 1:8 (“My servant”)
6. Isaiah - Isa 20:3 (“My servant”)
7. The prophets - Jer 7:25 (“My servants”)

B. HOW WONDERFUL IT WOULD BE IF GOD LOOKED UPON US AS COMPANIONS OF THESE GREAT MEN...

1. Who found freedom, peace, and glory!
2. Who found it in perfect submission to the Will of God!

CONCLUSION

1. He will, if we are willing to accept the call to serve Him and His Son Jesus Christ with...
   1. Absolute obedience
   2. Absolute humility
   3. Absolute loyalty
2. And when we are serving God, His Son Jesus Christ, and even each other in this manner, we are making great strides towards spiritual maturity!

“...a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ”

Can this be said of us?

|  |
| --- |
|  |
| ***Turning Trials into Triumph James 1:2-8*** |
|  |

INTRODUCTION

1. Perhaps you have seen the bumper sticker: “When life hands you a lemon, make lemonade!”

2. It is easier to smile at that statement than to practice it, but the basic philosophy is sound...

1. In fact, it is Biblical
2. Throughout the Bible are people who turned defeat into victory and trials into triumph
3. Instead of being victims, they became victors

3. The Epistle of James tells us that we can have this same experience today!

1. Whether we are dealing with trials on the outside
2. Or temptations on the inside Through faith in God and Jesus Christ we can experience victory!

4. The key to turning trials into triumph is to obey four imperatives:

1. Count - Ja 1:2
2. Know - Ja 1:3
3. Let - Ja 1:4
4. Ask - Ja 1:5-8

*[Starting with verse two, then, let’s look at the first imperative...]*

**I. “COUNT IT ALL JOY WHEN YOU FALL INTO VARIOUS TRIALS” (1:2)**

**A. NOTICE THAT JAMES ASSUMES THAT WE WILL EXPERIENCE TRIALS...**

1. He doesn’t say “if” but “when”

2. This is because Christians must expect trials

* 1. So said Jesus - Jn 16:33
  2. Paul also - Ac 14:22

3. The nature of these trials are “various”

a. Some trials come simply because we are human

1. Sickness, accidents
2. Disappointments, death

b. Other trials come because we are Christians - 1 Pet 4:12; 2 Tit 3:12

4. But because Satan fights us, and the world opposes us, we can expect trials!

B. WHAT IS TO BE THE CHRISTIAN’S RESPONSE? - “COUNT IT ALL JOY!” ... 1. This was the attitude of:

a. The apostles - Ac 5:41

b. Paul - Ro 5:3; Phi 2:17-18

c. The Christians - 1 Pet 1:6-8; 4:12-14

2. So the first step to turning trials into triumph is to: Immediately thank God and adopt a joyful attitude!

*[“But how,” we may ask, “is it possible to rejoice in the midst of trials?” The second imperative in verse 3 explains how...]*

**II. “KNOWING THAT THE TESTING OF YOUR FAITH PRODUCES PATIENCE”** (1:3)

A. THE RIGHT KNOWLEDGE CONCERNING THE VALUE OF TRIALS MAKES IT POSSIBLE TO HAVE A JOYFUL ATTITUDE...

1. We are to understand that:

a. Trials test our faith

b. Faith tested can bring out the best in us!

1. Just as fire purifies gold - 1 Pet 1:7
2. Just as training makes the athlete stronger

2. With this understanding, we can have joy in trials because we know that:

a. Testing works for us, not against us - cf. 2 Col 4:17

b. Trials rightly used help us to mature

B. SPECIFICALLY, FAITH TESTED PRODUCES “PATIENCE” ...

1. Notice Rom 5:3-4

2. In the Bible...

a. “Patience” is not a passive acceptance of circumstances

b. The Greek word is hupomone

1. From the preposition hupo (under), and meno (to remain, to abide)
2. It denotes the ability to exhibit steadfastness and constancy in the face of the most formidable difficulty!

c. It is a courageous perseverance in the face of suffering!

d. It is the continuing on even when it is rough, despite the circumstances

1. Such a quality of steadfastness can come only through experiencing trials
2. The value of developing patience will be seen shortly...

*[Having this understanding about what trials can accomplish enables us to have a joyful attitude toward such trials. But to really benefit from our trials, we must also obey the third imperative found in verse four...]*

**III. “LET PATIENCE HAVE ITS PERFECT WORK” (1:4)**

A. TO TRULY TURN TRIALS INTO TRIUMPH, WE MUST LET PATIENCE DO ITS WORK...

1. Too often, we want to get our trials or difficulties over with quickly

2. But there are times when the best course is to bear up under the trial patiently

a. Instead of grumbling and complaining...

b....patiently endure the trial, doing good despite the trial

B. FOR WHEN PATIENCE HAS HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO WORK, IT

PRODUCES MATURITY...!

1. The word perfect does not mean sinlessness, but “completeness, wholeness, maturity”

2. In the New Testament, it is used of those who:

a. Have attained to spiritual manhood in Christ

b. Have reached full maturity and understanding in spiritual matters

c. Are no longer “babes” and immature persons in Christ

3. Such maturity comes only when patience has had time to work!

a. Consider, for example, an endurance runner in his training

1. To be a mature runner requires letting patience do its work
2. 2)That is, patiently running mile after mile in training

b. If we wish to run the race well spiritually speaking, we need to develop patience

1. Which comes only through a form of spiritual “resistance training”
2. That is, trials in which our faith is put to the test!

*[Letting patience have its perfect work is not easy. It certainly requires wisdom which enables us to see the value of our trials. This brings us to the fourth imperative necessary to turn trials into triumph, found in verses five to eight...]*

**IV. “LET HIM ASK OF GOD” (1:5-8)**

A. IF WE LACK WISDOM, ASK FOR IT FROM GOD...!

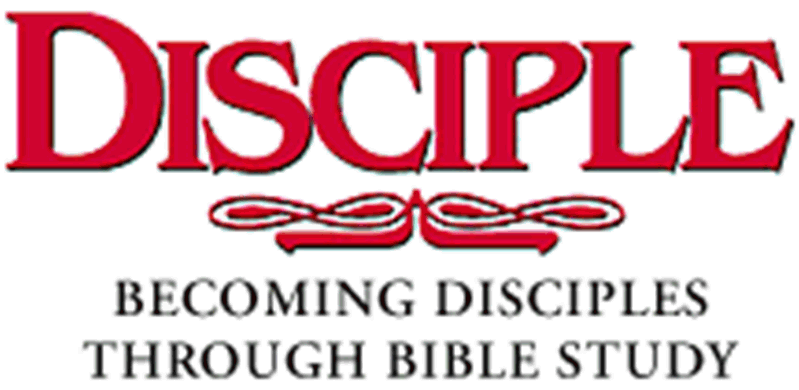
1. He has promised to give it liberally
2. And He will not reproach us for making such a request
3. Even as Solomon’s request for wisdom was well-pleasing to God - 1 Kin 3:7-12

B. WHAT EXACTLY IS THIS WISDOM...?

1. We should be careful to distinguish “wisdom” from “knowledge”
   1. Knowledge involves information, facts, etc.
   2. Wisdom is the ability or insight to properly use those facts in the most expeditious way
2. Failure to understand this distinction has led many into error!
   1. Many believe that this passage (Ja 1:5-8) teaches that God will give knowledge concerning His Will in answer to prayer
   2. But knowledge comes only through His Word; we must carefully study it if we would know the Will of God!
   3. However, the wisdom to properly use His Word can be received through prayer

**C. THE WISDOM TO PROPERLY USE TRIALS AND TURN THEM INTO TRIUMPH CAN LIKEWISE COME THROUGH “PROPER” PRAYER...**

1. Proper prayer is that asked in faith and with no doubt
2. Otherwise, the prayer will not be answered by God



**CONCLUSION**

1. So here is the key to turning trials into triumph:
   1. Having the knowledge and perspective that adversity can accomplish much good
   2. Letting the patient enduring of adversity accomplish its work
   3. All the while using the wisdom God gives in answer to prayer to help put it all together 2. When this is done, even trials can be a source of joy for the Christian!
2. Have we learned to make lemonade out of our lemons in life?

Note: Much of the material for this outline was adapted heavily from The Bible Exposition Commentary, Volume 2, by Warren W. Wiersbe, pages 337-340.

|  |
| --- |
| From Behind the Wall |
|  |

Here are some recent letters we have received of our Christian Brothers & Sisters seeking a

Pen Pals through our ministry.

Greetings:

I heard about your amazing program from a friend. I am seeking a Pen Pal to discuss matters of God and the Bible.

I can also offer prayer and will to witness to the at-risk youth. I was 15 years old when I was convicted and sentence to life without parole 22 years ago.

Christ’s love leads me from the dark into the light.

Enclosed is a poem I hope you will place on your church bulletin board.

God Bless, Roosevelt Harris

***Let Me In***

When my heart beats no more,

and the sins I have committed

must be accounted for.

I pray that God understands,

that I tried my best to be a good man.

I didn’t know my Father,

but honored my Mother.

Treated those who hated me

as if they were brothers.

I tried to walk the narrow path

while others mocked me,

went wide, and laughed.

Now when my time comes to an end.

I pray the Lord will open the gates,

and ushers me in.

By Roosevelt Harris

Canon City, CO



Recently, I answered an advertisement I came across that said it offered:

50 Mega Church that provides info on free Pen Pals for $8.98 So, I took the risk and saved up the money and sent off to receive the info. I received a small package containing “49” American Church addresses and “1” from an address in France. Your address is listed among these “50” Mega Church Addresses.

So I am writing this letter to you to ask if you can provide me with this information on free Pen Pals (if this claim is true)? Do you know (if this is true) if these pen pals are Christian?

Please tell me more about Disciple of Christ Ministries?

I truly hope that you will reply to my note as soon as you are able to do so.

GOD BLESS!!

In His Blessed Name

Billy Mundorff

Bridgeton, NJ



Dear Pastor,

My name is Jeremy, I’m an inmate in South Dakota. I’ve heard about your Church & been soul searching for some time.

I’ve no religion & feel quite lost. Could you please place my letter on the church bulletin board? I’m seeking a Pen Pal to write for guidance & friendship.

I’m actually on a website “Writeaprisoner.com” where I have a photo & a little more info about me. But I’ve had no luck with the ad.

I’m lonely & alone. If anyone has some time to write me my address is:

Jeremy Mundorf #6577

Springfield, SD

|  |
| --- |
| Holy Greetings bros./sis’ in Jesus Christ who is head of His Church. I thank God for your Newsletter and Pen Pal service as I prepare for transition release as a new SW Florida citizen. I pray God will bring me friendships with people, especially in that area prior to release.  Feel free to add the above to your newsletter, being Greetings, thanksgiving, and supplication request. Please keep me on your list and add me to your Pen Pal service, I may someday return that request to those needing a pen pal. Please respond to let me know if I am on your list of services at you earliest convenience.  Matt Brimberry #K03882  Taylorville, IL    Good Day “D.C.M.” hope all is well! I am writing to inquire about your ministries? Can you send me an information package/materials, pertaining to yourselves? I am an Evangelist who is determined to stay strong in my “faith walk!” Of course this is not an easy task, due to the fact that “Satan” is so busy! As believers I feel it is our duty to keep one another encouraged and strong in all our Godly pursuits. If you have any Pen Pals available, I would definitely be interested in them.  If you have any other information pertaining to anything else, you feel I may be interested in feel free to send me that as well, if possible. Thank you for your time “D.C.M.” God Bless and enjoy your day!  Sincerely  Jerome Tita #B09919  Clermont, FL    Dear Pen Pals for Jesus:  I wonder if you could help me out of a little difficulty. I am in search of someone sincere in faith who would be willing to correspond with me as a pen pal. Ever mindful of the Scriptures: “To have no fellowship with the works of darkness,” My quest is imperative because all those around me want to lie, cheat, gossip, and practice many other forms of evil in this den of iniquity. My present incarceration caused me a limitation in access to those I can have inspirational, uplifting conversations with. So my search is in essence, for someone who will accept me as their brother and friend.  I understand that there will be times when I will need the value of a friend. There will also be times when I could offer kind words and prayer for others. I would love to share with others. I have tried numerous websites for prisoners to obtain pen pals, but I have been discouraged because the replies I have received have not been from the type of people I’m looking for.  If your church has a bulletin or prayer request board, would you please post my letter on it?  Thank you for taking the time to consider this letter of request. May God Bless you.  Respectfully requested,  Porfirio Mendoza # 1800654  Fort Stockton, TX    Hello D.C.M  I am Terry D. Austin and I’ve just been introduced to God. I been reading my Bible and taking notes to one-day lead and save souls. I’m looking for encouragement and friendship to help fight this spiritual war I/m going through.  I am 39yrs old male single and no friends. I don’t get any mail and want to know more about God. I hope you can help me grow in Christ.  Thank you,  Terry D Austin # A688-657  Mansfield, OH |



***April***

1 - Maurice Emile

1 - Tremayne Clark

1 - Daniel Dick McLeod

2 - James Eugene Brensinger Jr

9 - Mandi McDaniel

16 – Nikia Eddings

20 - Andrew Horan

23 – Steven G Menchala

26 - Rico Teasley

***May***

4 – Jose Cortez

13 – Arthur Dubois

15 – Robert Edwards

16 – Stafford Goodman

17 – Michael Green

22 – Michael Gomes

***June***

10 – Winston Blank

11 – Jonathan Griffin

11 – Edwin A Graham

15 – David Lakin

15 – Cliff Hyatt

23 – Nathan Goodman

29 – Tracy Joyner

***July***

6 – John Hall

10 – Robert Wainright

16 – Stephen James Jr.

16 – Tramaine Riddick

18 – Christine Crowe

20 – Craig Hood

23 – Stephen G Menchala

23 – Christine Prevo

26 – Cleveland Cruthirds

27 – Michael Chase

29 – Joshua Dunn

*If we have missed your Birthday, please send us your DOB so we can make sure you receive a Birthday Card and list it in our newsletter.*

|  |
| --- |
| About Us |
|  |

**Disciple of Christ Ministries**

Was founded with the belief that one person can make a positive change in those who are out there lost and living in the flesh. Our work is founded on the following five pillars of faith:

* A duty to reach out to the lost and forgotten.
* An obligation to lead by example.
* An all-inclusive approach: We help everyone regardless of their religious beliefs.
* That the path to salvation lies in our Lord Jesus, serving Him in everything we do.
* That Christ will use our testimonies for His glory so others can see how God has taken our trials and tribulations and turned them into victories for Christ.

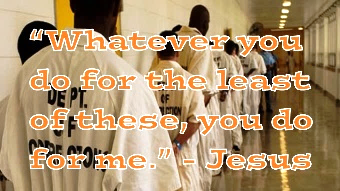
***Our mission is to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ where we live, work, and through prison ministry.***

How are we doing this? 1) By developing a community of committed disciples of Jesus Christ, which will have an impact for Christ locally and around the world. 2) Through personal evangelism, the sharing of our own testimony of how God has worked in our lives and the impact it has had on our personal relationships with Christ.

3) By building a strong “Christian Fellowship” and a team of missionaries, who will be able to write to those who are seeking the Lord Jesus in their life, through our Pen Pals for Jesus Ministry. Thus Christ will become known to His sheep that have fallen into the ways of the flesh, giving them the same hope and faith that Christ has given to us so freely.

4) By developing a working outreach mentoring program, which will be able to assist and help reintegrate those who are seeking a new and better life after incarceration. 5) Building resources with local and state agencies, to better assist in getting a person the much needed services

they so desperately need, like clothing, food, medical services, and housing.



|  |
| --- |
| ***To all of the churches and friends who receive this newsletter, we are in need of your support in continuing our work serving God through His ministry.*** |

When God led me to form this ministry, I knew I had to be obedient to this calling. Fueled by faith, the foundation was laid and our website launched. Knowing that if it was of God the ministry would reach those lost souls seeking a life in Christ. The Lord has bought this ministry to many and has given us the opportunity to share and provide services to many individuals who are in need of what we have to offer. As I strive to serve God with this ministry, I am finding it difficult in reaching the full potential of this ministry, due to the limited funding that is available to our efforts. 

Since being called to serve God in this ministry I have faced many obstacles along the way. But I have not lost sight of our mission and continue to seek God for direction. As you can imagine there is great need for our services and that brings our already limited funding to a negative balance. So I am asking you today for your support in my mission work in our prison and outreach ministry.

Here are a few of our major accomplishments over the past 4 years:

* We have had over 740,000 hits on our website.
* We are now reaching just over 160 inmates in 18 States through our Pen Pals for Jesus Ministry.
* We sent out over 450 greeting cards. *(Birthday, Holiday, Thinking of you)*
* We have published and mailed out over 1,000 Newsletters this past year.

Would you please consider making a donation to help support our mission to server God’s people **“no matter where they are located?”** Your financial support will help us continue our work in making positive differences in the lives of all the lost souls that God directs our way through our website and personal encounters. Your donation or financial support will make an immediate impact in helping us keep our website up and running, and will bring basic services to our clients as we continue to expand our services. Every dollar you send provides services to those in need. We look forward to receiving your generous donation or pledge.

Thanks for any help you may be able to offer our ministry.

Dennis Dockham

***Donations can be made from our website:***

[***www.DiscipleofChristMinistries.org***](http://www.DiscipleofChristMinistries.org)

***or you can mail checks payable to:***

***Disciple of Christ Ministries***

***273 Newport Ave Unit 2***

***Quincy, MA 02170-1727***

****

***We are in need of volunteers to write our Christian inmates who are seeking pen pals. There are over 150 requests now from our brothers and sisters who have fallen into dark times that have turned to Christ for guidance. They are working on a better way to live their lives through the grace of Christ blood shed on the cross.***





***Join us in prayer as we raise them up to the Lord in Jesus’ Name***

Pray for all those who suffer from homelessness and poverty here in America and around the world as they are all God’s children.

Pray for all our Christian brothers and sisters in our prison systems, that they will be able to be beacons of light for Christ in a place of darkness where evil prevails in all facets of a prison. That God will supply our Fellow Christian the words to say to reach the lost sheep within the walls and bring them to Christ.

Keep in your prayers all of those who have been discharged and are now back into the ways of the world and have chosen to continue their walk with Christ. That the Light of Christ never fades and continues to shine their path. That they find the church God has planned for them as this is an important part of their walk with Christ. That they are able to hear the Holy Spirit speak to them and will continue to guide their path.

Pray for those who feel they are lost and forgotten, living in darkness not knowing Christ. That they are able to be guided to the same peace and joy we have found in Christ Jesus ourselves.

Pray for this ministry as we seek God’s guidance in our fundraising efforts to keep our website online for another year. Plus, the funds and wisdom to move forward with fulfilling our mission statement.

Pray for those family members we left behind when we slipped away into the darkness, choosing to go our own ways for whatever reason.

Pray for your fellow Christian Brother and Sisters who like yourself are seeking God during this time of trials and tribulations. That they find the Word of God as a new way of life, becoming faithful servants for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Please join me as I pray with my Church Glad Tiding on moving forward with finding a new building so we can continue to grow and build God’s Kingdom. That God will open the doors of the building he has in store for us.





|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **273 Newport Ave Unit 2**  **Quincy, Massachusetts 02170-1727** |  |  |  |

Answering the Call to Serve God’s People No Matter Where they are Located!



|  |
| --- |
|  |

***I am interested in becoming a Pen Pal with Pen Pals for Jesus.***

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (If inmate) DOC#\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Prison or Jail) UNIT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or (Email for Volunteers)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CITY/ST/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Inmates please provide us with your Age: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*Are you allowed to receive Greeting Cards [Yes] or [NO] \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Return completed form to:

ATTN: Brother Doc,

Pen Pals for Jesus – a ministry of Disciple of Christ Ministries

273 Newport Ave Unit 2, Quincy, MA. 02170-1727