



The Florida Prison Evangelist

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Merry Christmas -- Happy Holidays

Whether you like the Christmas season or just enjoy holiday time with family, let's make the most of this time when everyone is thinking about Jesus, and extend a hand to invite them to the assembly!

This holiday season we extend our deepest gratitude to all the individuals and congregations who partner with us to share the love of Christ behind prison walls.

Gary's Encouragement

Christopher Carter is doing a superb job. He has an excellent rapport with staff, Chaplains and inmates alike. He is teaching the Bible in a sound and powerful way. Baptisms are occurring regularly. I am more than delighted with what he has accomplished. He is taking this ministry to a higher level. We are so thankful for the Lord sending him our way. Thank you for your continued support and prayers for Christopher, his family, and this mighty work of the Lord. I am still going to prison weekly and proctoring Nations University students. My main work is to fill in for Christopher when he is speaking at congregations to fundraise and recruit new volunteers. - Gary

Romans 14:5-6 (NKJV) One person esteems one day above another; another esteems every day alike. Let each be fully convinced in his own mind. He who observes the day, observes it to the Lord; and he who does not observe the day, to the Lord he does not observe it. He who eats, eats to the Lord, for he gives God thanks; and he who does not eat, to the Lord he does not eat, and gives God thanks.



The Carter Family

We know that for some folks the holidays are joyous and for others somber. Christopher, Sondra, Alejandra, and Maximo pray the Lord keep you and bless you, not only this holiday season, but in every season of life. Our family has received an abundance of love throughout this year and you are all in our hearts and minds.

A Short Report

We are very excited about the future of changing lives in Florida communities! In 2022 we expanded our outreach in the Florida prison mission field. Christopher is currently in seven different prisons any given month and has helped 28 men obey the Gospel this year. It is with great joy that he reports chaplains in different prisons are asking him for classes and Bible Studies. It is with great regret that he cannot personally take on another prison. We need more volunteers across the state! If you are interested please let us know. Some recent areas with need for volunteers include Lake City, Bell Glade, & Sebring.



Prison Ministry Spotlight

We are thankful for all who partner with us! This quarter we highlight our brother Troy who is now joining the fight behind prison walls. We thank God and our brothers at Ft. Walton for making this connection.

Troy Spradlin began serving at the Margaret Street church of Christ as a minister and preacher in July of 2017. Previously, he and his wife, Andrea, served as missionaries to Paraguay, South America from 2010 until 2017. Margaret Street was their sponsoring congregation. He graduated from the Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver, Colorado with a Masters in Missions Degree and also from the Southwest School of Bible Studies in Austin, Texas earning a Diploma of Biblical Studies. While in Paraguay, he served as the Director of the Asuncion Bible Academy (2013-2017), a Bear Valley Extension School. Upon his return to the USA, he served as an instructor at the Northwest Florida School of Biblical Studies, in Pensacola, Florida from 2017-2021. He is also currently involved with the Good News Today TV program with a segment called, "Repairing Our Understanding" and another called "Have a Bible Question."



In June of this year, I received a call from a brother at Ft Walton Beach, FL who asked if we had someone at our congregation who could go and visit a brother in Christ, incarcerated at the Santa Rosa Correctional Institute. I told him that we did not, but we should! So, I volunteered. I felt compelled to respond because of what Jesus said in Matthew 25:34-40. No one had ever asked me to go visit an inmate before, nor had a need ever come up in the time I have been in ministry. I have never been inside a prison, but I believe every soul is worthy of Jesus' sacrifice and needs to hear the Gospel. And, since I also frequently ask God to use me, His "earthen vessel," in whatever means He deems necessary, I immediately began what became a lengthy process to get approval as a "Spiritual Advisor" volunteer. In October of this year, I was finally able to go visit our brother, in person, inside the dorm within the prison. Coincidentally, it happened to be his birthday! So far, it has been a great experience - although a little scary at first, I must admit! Thankfully, I have a great relationship with the Prison Chaplain and also with our brother in Christ, whom I've been to visit often. Lord willing, I should be receiving more opportunities to minister to other inmates in the near future. Through all of this, I am most grateful to Chris, who has provided so much wonderful encouragement and guidance this whole time. He has really helped me navigate this new ministry and it would not have been as easy without him. Thank you, Chris! Lastly, and above all, may God receive the glory for anything and all that may come from this effort. - Troy Spradlin

