

# Christ for

## ALL PEOPLES from ALL NATIONS



Polk County Jail Ministry News *Jesus Alive in Lives* Issue 246 - December, 2025

## The Sin Problem Mankind Can't Fix!!!

Merry Christmas to each of you as we ponder the miracle of the incarnation of the Son of God who came to earth as a man. He came to deal with the sin problem that had overtaken humanity from the fall Gen. 3:1-7. Mankind could not fix it, thus the importance of the virgin birth of Christ. If a man was involved with the conception of God's Son then the child would have been born a sinner. Mary conceived as the Holy Spirit overshadowed her. The sinless Son of God was born. He had to be a perfect Man to die on behalf of man. There is only One perfect God/Man Christ Jesus! I'm amazed at God's initiative on our behalf. This statement of God is profound through Peter, *It is God's desire that none perish, but that all would come to repentance.* We choose to either spend eternity with God or away from Him in hell. The most precious gift from God has been given to all of us! What will you do with God's offer? He came to redeem us. He designed His plan. *For it is by grace we are saved through faith and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God not by works so that no one can boast* Eph. 2:8-9. This tangible gift is available to all who **choose** to turn from their sins, believe in His name, and receive Him as Savior and Lord. Will you?

On December 5th and 6th we had our annual Christmas event. These were amazing nights to share God's love by giving each inmate pop, popcorn, and two stamped Christmas cards to send to loved ones. Then we sang familiar Christmas carols as the inmates enthusiastically sang along with us. Many shed

### Quote of the Month:

***God came to earth to pay our debt that we could never pay.***

tears of appreciation for the kindness that blessed their hearts. They were two memorable nights to demonstrate the love of Christ, and sow seed into hearts. Thanks to everyone for your financial gifts, all the donations of stamps, and those who prayed for this Christmas event. It's exciting to watch God work in individuals. Thanks to HyVee for the pop, and Brandmeyer Gourmet Popcorn of Ankeny for their donations. Both businesses give incredible gifts every year. Only God knows the total impact these events will have for eternity!!

I met with a distraught inmate who missed his kids and regretted another relationship after he divorced his wife. His Bible was open and many tears flowed. God was at work in this young man's life. He had never trusted in Christ only, but believed in religious traditions. He agreed that he needed a relationship not just religion. The Word brought conviction of his glaring sins. He knew he couldn't keep going this way of defiance toward God. I asked if he wanted to receive Christ into his life and he said yes. He prayed and became a new creation. Joy was all over his face! **CHRIST** is God's precious gift to man, and our only hope for eternal life! Have you *received* this precious **GIFT**? **Merry CHRISTmas** from our home to yours and have a blessed New Year!

*In His Service,  
Chaplain Jerry*



## A Sent One – John Gay

First off I want to thank God for Chaplain Jerry and the Polk County Jail Ministry. The number of times I've been in the Jail is embarrassing, but that's neither here nor there. What is important is that each time that I've been in from the first time to the last Chaplain Jerry, and the Jail Ministry have been there for me in every way they possibly could. I've never been denied a

Bible or a personal prayer. Through the years my faith has grown so much. It has a lot to do with the hope that was given to me while incarcerated and the prayers that were prayed by Chaplain Jerry and his staff. Chaplain Jerry was there for me through so many things. One that sticks out the most was when my Dad passed away last year. Chaplain Jerry was there within an hour of finding out my Father's passing, and as always he

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# PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Prayer for the Holy Spirit's work of conviction in men and women's hardened hearts and open them for the things of God.
- Healing for volunteer Rich Thomson's wife Elaine as she deals with brain cancer.
- Prayer for the man whom God has called and burdened for this ministry as the Assistant Chaplain.
- Prayer for wisdom in dealing with the multifaceted aspects of the ministry.
- Prayer for Sheriff Schneider that we would continue to experience a great working relationship, favor with the ministry, and for his busy schedule.
- The ministry will increase in its influence and effectiveness in 2026.
- God would keep changing the atmosphere of the women's housing units from spiritually dark places to units where there is great hunger and desire for the Lord.
- Pray for the **D**iscipleship **O**utreach **C**enter as classes occur, and excitement increases. Pray for a crowd to assemble and get momentum.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit stirs the hearts of staff and the incarcerated with the Gospel message through the ministry's presence in the Jail.
- Inmates awake to watch Sunday services at 10:00 AM and also that detention officers would be convinced of their benefit to the inmate population.
- God will move the hearts of the inmate's family members at home, and convict them of their spiritual needs as the inmate shares Jesus with them from Jail.
- Prayer for released inmates to have self discipline to attend and be active in a Bible believing local church, daily Bible reading, find a mentor, and get a job.
- More opportunities to share about the ministry this coming year in churches and other organizations.
- Pray we all stay thankful, humble and broken before the **King of Kings!!**

# ANSWERS:

- We received all the stamps needed for our Christmas event! PTL!!! Thanks to each of you for the stamps, donations to

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offered prayer comfort and a hug. Without the prayers and Bibles given to me in those times of despair I would in no way have even half the knowledge, faith or love for God that I have today. I'm really grateful that in a place of such darkness and despair, I had someone give me encouragement, hope and God's love. In fact it was in that very jail that I gave my heart and life to Jesus. Chaplain Jerry guided me with a helpful prayer. Today my faith is so strong. My life has changed in such a magnificent way now that I have given my life over to God in every way. I am now an active member of my family, church, and community. I wake up each day asking God to direct me, and thanking Him for the blessings that He gives. I often think back to the years of my active addiction, constant incarcerations, and thank God for my struggles. I ask Him to

purchase them, and your powerful prayers!

- All the divine appointments throughout the month! To God be the Glory!
- We are thankful for favor and good working relationships with the Sheriff's office.
- Hearts are ready, and open to the Gospel.
- More inmates in the housing units are gathering to pray and to study God's word.
- Lives of the incarcerated and the employees of the Sheriff's office were deeply touched by the Christmas event. Hearts were drawn to a point of hunger for God. What an open door to get into the housing units to interact with inmates face to face.
- God has blessed the ministry Board with unity, wisdom and strong leadership.
- I want to thank and praise God for each of you who partnered with us in 2025 to make it one of the greatest years ever! Each of you is truly an answer to our prayers!

# MOST WANTED:

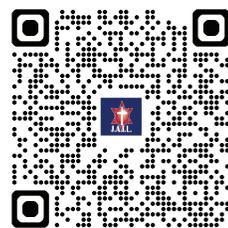
- Clothes closet needs men's shoes, all winter coats. Please donate only listed items.
- *The Cross and the Switchblade* soft cover books by David Wilkerson.

## Ministry Monthly Report: December 2025

	Monthly:	Ytd:
Inmate Request:	887	10,716
One-on-One inmate counseling:	842	10,097
Religious reading materials given:	937	10,986
Bible Study groups:	70	694
Inmates involved with studies:	600	5,569
View Worship Service:	165	2,112
Volunteer Hours:	234	2,146
Number of Volunteers:	24	294
Bibles given:	475	5,076
<b>Number of New Believers:</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>276</b>

guide and direct me in every way so that I can stay on the path, and be a good role model for my family. Please pray for me, and I will surely be praying for you. Merry Christmas to all and remember God loves you so much!!

*Thank you!*  
~ Chaplain Jerry



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