

September – April 2011

"If the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed." (John 8:36)

Issue #7

#### Dear Royal Family of God,

Thank you for your prayers and generous contribution to G.P.M. and its ministries. We are so amazed at how God continue to use us to bring many to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. On April 9th and 10th we went into the "Correctional Development Center" and held our second prison conference. It was amazing watching God work in the heart of the inmates and our team; granting us supernatural strength in the exercise of our spiritual gifts, and boldness. Your prayers paved the way for us. Thank you so much. The team examined the many facets of "God's grace" to us undeserved sinners, and God's grace working through us to others. Many of the inmates found hope, forgiveness, purpose, solutions to their problems, freedom from; anger, bitterness, unforgiveness, fear, and worry.

On the Monday after the conference the chaplain of the prison called our office to inform us of the fruit of the conference. He told me of a couple of the ladies who came to their office crying because they thought we were coming back. These ladies heard something that changed their lives and wanted more. About 200 inmates signed up to receive bible studies through the mail.

Thank you for partnering with us,

Keithian L. Starling

G.P.M.





#### **Operation Impact Lives**

Operation Impact Lives is a group of believers partnering to impact the lives of prisoners. O.I.L. is made up of pastors, evangelists, and biblically sound seminaries. Periodically, conferences are held in prisons, jails and youth detention centers where pastors, evangelists, church leaders, and believers are invited to join the great commission. Sound bible teaching gives prisoners hope, purpose, and a new way of thinking. Once inmates respond positively to bible truth, they need to be built up in the faith. It is the desire of GPM to eventually offer a scholarship program for ex-inmates with seminaries willing to collaborate, so that they may be educated and prepared to work in ministry upon release for those who are called to do His work.

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#### **Operation Impact Lives TEAM Reports**

Wow! What a weekend! We had the privilege of God using us to take the message of salvation for eternity and fellowship for time to people dying to hear. So many of us have tried to tell others about our Savior Jesus Christ and been disappointed at the response that seems to say "I'm too busy" or "don't bother me with that stuff". Well, if you ever want to use the knowledge God has given you to tell others and wish an eager ear, go to a prison or a jail. It takes harsh discipline for God to get an adults attention, most of the time. Many of those who are incarcerated realize that God is behind their sentence and are ready to listen.

Keithian did a marvelous job of allowing God the Holy Spirit to use him to set all this up. We were welcomed into numerous "pods" of prisoners and even got to address some Spanish ones that required an interpreter. God tells us that His Word never returns to Him void and we saw evidence of that even in the short time we were there. Some of the prisoners even told us that they had contemplated suicide but had changed their mind after hearing about Jesus. What a God we serve.

O.I.L Team member



"I was in prison and you came to visit me" (Matthew 25:36)

What a blessing it was to participate in Grace Prison Ministries' Operation Impact Lives weekend conference in the Davidson County Correctional Facility. It was a wonderful experience and I would not trade it for anything. What a wonderful well behaved audience! Often the meeting rooms were packed to capacity. I was so excited when I got to see the same faces more than once. They wanted to be there and were really listening. What a joy to see all that positive volition. I am confident that God has a plan for them. They are still alive! Many a famous person has been on the wrong side of the law in their youth only to go on to make an enormous impact, George Muller being one.

The world is such a crazy place to make one's way these days and few young people have guidance from Godly parents. God had taken these people and plucked them from the rat race and given them time to reflect. I pray they do. It was indeed an honor and pleasure to encourage them with the hope given only in Jesus Christ and the words of the Bible.

It is my prayer that leaders will rise up from those men and women both on the inside and once released, on the outside. As Moses Onwubiko said in his section, a revival could start right there in the Davidson County Correctional facility if only someone will catch hold! Henry Varley said "The world has yet to see what God can do with and for and through and in a man who is fully and wholly consecrated to Him." D.L. Moody heard those words and determined in his heart to be that man! Those words are just as true today. How important it is to encourage one another. I thank God for the open door and for the open hearts. Please join me in praying for those incarcerated.

O.I.L Team member

I have been doing prison ministries for about 25 years and this weekend was as "GOD as it gets!"

Keithian Starling assembled a team that had one goal: powerfully present JESUS CHRIS-the LIVING WORD OF GOD, in love, emphasizing His mercy and grace to a hungry group of inmates who; like most of the rest of America, has been hoodwinked by Satan's evil; which includes man-made religions.

I don't think I have ever seen as many receptive souls, faces, and arms. After each class, large groups of inmates would approach me asking for more information more of the music, and basically just asking "HOW AND WHERE DO I GET MORE OF THIS?"

Many people had been in prayer for this conference. I could sense it as soon as we entered the prisons. We are all partners in this invisible war for the souls of people and when we all humble ourselves and decide to use whatever gifts God has freely given to us FOR HIM rather than trying to compete AGAINST others for the lost sheep, God will bless it. Well, HE DID! Thank you all for the prayers. Now let us continue to GO---being led by His Spirit Word using our gifts to the best of our abilities!

#### O.I.L Team member



The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, Because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives and freedom to prisoners (Isa 61:1).

The female inmates of Nashville's Metro-Davidson County detainment facility witnessed this passage above from the Word of God in action through Operation Impact Lives (OIL). From prayer, to music, to sound biblical teaching, to the presentation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; these women afflicted by sin and bondage were touched in a powerful way. Their hearts were mended by messages of God's forgiveness; they recognized their spiritual liberty attained only by grace through faith in Jesus Christ; and they realized they could be free from the power and influence of sin in their lives by focusing on the Word of Truth and the influence of the Holy Spirit. Not only were they given messages of faith, hope, and love to affect them in their present situation, but the team also provided them with the spiritual tools to continue their walk with Jesus Christ and press forward in faith towards their calling to be ministers of grace to others.

The grace of God was emphasized, so that they would recognize all that the Lord has already done for them because of His loving kindness toward the human race. The required faith necessary to receive the grace of God was explained, so that the ladies would understand that the only Christian way of life is through the complete and total trust in the sacrifice of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The hope that keeps Christians moving forward in faith was exemplified by the O.I.L. team members and the stories of saints from the Scriptures, so that the ladies could see for themselves that they could have this living hope as well.

Lastly, we strongly encouraged the ladies to continue a daily walk with the Lord as we pointed to Scriptures promising them that God can and will transform them from the inside out through the intake of the Word of God, the influence of God the Holy Spirit, daily prayer and confession of sins, and fellowship with other believers.

In His name,

O.I.L Team member





## History of BTCP

In 1988 Dennis Mock taught a conference for pastors in Mombasa, Kenya. He quickly realized that these men were eager to learn, but had never had any opportunity for theological or ministry training. Following his experience in Mombasa, Dennis wrote a comprehensive 10-course curriculum designed to equip pastors with essential Bible knowledge and basic pastoral skills. This curriculum was first taught in Nairobi, Kenya in 1990. Since that time the Lord has expanded the ministry of BTCP around the world through hundreds of ministry partners using the program in over 80 countries.

It has been the vision of Grace Prison Ministries to start a scholarship program to extend nonformal theological training to the world untrained pastors, deacons, missionaries, evangelists, and church leaders. Our target group are but not limited to those released from prison and jail. Under the leadership of Keithian L. Starling President and Founder of Grace Prison Ministries. G.P.M is planning to start a Bible Institute here in Nashville Tennessee beginning in the summer.

The Bible Institute will use the Bible Training Center for Pastors (BTCP) concepts and curriculum, to provide trans-denominational basic Bible training for international pastors and church leaders that will adequately and effectively equip them with the necessary knowledge and practical skills for the work of local church ministry and missionary work here and abroad.

Please pray for this ministry and If your are motivated to contribute to this effort it will be greatly appreciated. Each manual per course will cost us \$20.00. There are 10 courses in this curriculum. Presently we have three students ready to start in the summer.

G.P.M.

# **Grace Prison Ministries At-A-Glance**

Grace Prison Ministries Inc. is a Christian, grace-oriented, nonprofit organization incorporated in Tennessee which focuses on changing the lives of prisoners and their families through evangelism and sound bible teaching.

GPM travels to jails, prisons, and youth detention centers throughout the United States; evangelizing individuals with the message of Jesus Christ at four to five institutions per month. This activity is important because the message of Jesus Christ brings hope, forgiveness, and change to those incarcerated. Therefore, they can be law-abiding citizens and good role model s in our society. Upon our visits we provide bibles for those in need of bibles. In conjunction with the above activities G.P.M. has the following ministries which are design to bring glory to Jesus Christ and edification to believers:

### Discipleship through Mail

The Discipleship through Mail outreach is designed to equip new believers in the basic fundamental doctrines for living the normal Christian life. Bible lessons and resources are mailed to individual students in various prisons, jails, and youth detention centers, providing them an opportunity to learn and grow at their own pace. These lessons are reviewed by us and mailed back to the students with comments that will help them better understand Bible truths. There are nearly 200 students enlisted in this program nationwide. D.T.M. is also designed to help develop the serious students who have already completed the basics, by creating personalized studies and providing more biblical resources to help them continue their growth to maturity. Upon completion of the basics, students are rewarded with a study bible, which is hard for some to get in prison.

### **Operation Impact Lives**

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### **Grace Refuge Transition Facility**

In an effort to assist recently released inmates, GPM offers temporary housing, food, clothing, and limited transportation. By God's grace, GPM has recently purchase a 2400 square ft. house on 1 acre of land with a barn in Madison, TN. This facility will be temporal housing for those recently released inmates that have been proved and positive towards learning and applying the word of God to life. We hope to turn the barn into a chapel some day, so that the ex-inmates can get nourished in the truth for continued discipleship.

## **Grace Prison Ministries Recent & Planned Schedule**

Nashville, TN Albany, GA Colquitt, GA Lighthouse Point FL Nashville, TN Shreveport & Bossier City, LA Lubbock, TX

April 9 – 10, 2011 – Correctional Development Center (O.I.L Conference)
May 10 – 11, 2011 – Dougherty High School
May 12, 2011 – Colquitt County Jail
June 11 – 17, 2011 – Lighthouse Christian Youth Ministries
October 2011 – Tennessee Prison for Women (O.I.L. Conference)
November 2011 – Caddo & Bossier City Youth Detention Center
November 2011 – Texas Prisons

### Keithian Weekly Prison & Jail Ministries (Nashville)

Monday 1:00pm – 2:00pm Monday 2:30pm – 3:30pm Wednesday 1:00pm – 2:00pm Wednesday 7:15pm – 8:30pm Friday 8:00am – 9:00am Friday 10:00am – 11:00am

Correctional Development Center (Male) Metro Detention Center (CCA) Metro Detention Center (CCA) Metro Detention Center (CCA) Criminal Justice Center (Adult Males) Criminal Justice Center (Juveniles)

Please continue to pray for us!

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**Financial Policy:** Grace Prison Ministries is a Christian non-denominational, mission minded, and bible teaching non-profit tax-exempt organization. And under the Internal Revenue Code 501 (c) (3). All contributions to this grace ministry are tax deductible. G.P.M. offer its services free of charge. We trust God to meet the needs of this ministry. We do not solicit funds but operate entirely on voluntary contributions. When understanding the need to reach lost souls with the good news and sound bible teaching motivate you to contribute, you have the privilege of giving and sharing in the dissemination of the Word of God. This is a grace ministry.