



David Peglow



The Miracle! The Mission!

Greetings at this special time of year when we celebrate the birth of heaven's perfect Lamb! Have you thought of how God came down that we might go up? Do you know who the greatest missionary was? The Messiah. You might ask how was He a missionary? His mission was from heaven to earth, from God to man, and is this planet. In the book of Hebrews He is spoken of as the Apostle, meaning one sent as on mission. If Messiah is now in you what does that mean? The world is no longer our native land, but our mission field. The Lord of all creation became man and put on flesh. The divine and human came together to set us free from our sins. In Luke 18:8 Jesus states, **"Will He find faith on the earth when He returns?"** Right now He would find a whole lot of fear, but very little faith. How profound when God states something will happen prophetically, it **will** take place. He sees the past, present and future all at the same time! Who would have thought a virgin would be with child, but God prophesied it in Genesis 3:15. Every month we feature the testimony of a changed life, and each one is a miracle! How radical to see a life wrecked with sin, and then a completely new life begins right before our eyes. **Thank you** for your faithful prayers, but I urge you to increase your fervency as we see the **day** approaching. We witness the effects of your faithful prayers and get to watch God's mighty hand moving in the hearts of the incarcerated, and the Sheriff's office staff. **Thank you** for your partnership prayerfully and financially this past year! Wow!! What a difference you've made!

Here's an example of your prayers at work. I had four visits on the monitor, and one of the guys was wheelchair bound. He'd been stabbed eight times all over his body as he defended a young lady attacked by three men. He showed me the stab marks and scars. Several major organs were affected. His legs had so much damage that they'll need to be amputated. I said he was a miracle, and that God has plans for his

life or he wouldn't be alive. With that awareness he considered his eternal destiny and whether he had a relationship with Jesus Christ. He admitted his need and trusted in Jesus Christ to be his personal Savior. Often people tell me, "I'm glad those inmates respond to the gospel. They sure need the Lord." But what about you? We all need Him just as much. That's why He came to make sinners saints. But, you must believe and receive this most priceless GIFT, and then you will experience a new life in Him. It's not about religious rituals, but a relationship that will give you true meaning, purpose, and direction for your empty life. Humble yourself. Jesus sure did!! Phil 2:5-8

This year our annual Christmas event was only one night. Saturday Dec. 4th was when volunteers came to the roll call room, and filled hundreds of popcorn sacks for all the inmates. Most of the 28 volunteers helped us. After all the sacks were filled we had a brief meeting, and they all left. Only Sherri, my secretary and I delivered the popcorn, and the two stamped Christmas cards. We put a big box filled with sacks of popcorn, and the cards at the pod doors for the officers to hand out. We received many responses from inmates who thanked us for the thoughtful evening of the true blessings of Christmas. The backstory is that about a month ago Major Williams asked me to come to his office to discuss our annual Christmas event. He said inmate morale was down and felt our annual Christmas event would help with this problem. I was so excited and thrilled to give Christmas to the inmates again! Arlie Brandmeyer raises popcorn on his Ankeny farm. He's donated 25 very large three foot long and 18" diameter bags of popcorn for the last 16 years. Please support the Brandmeyer Popcorn store in Ankeny to convey your gratitude. Thanks again Arlie for your selfless gift!

– In His Service,
Chaplain Jerry

Tip of the Month:

Man was separated from God because of his sin, but God restored our relationship due to His Son's substitutionary death. His birth gave us a second birth!

David Peglow – Another RESCUED Life!

I had the opportunity to attend my family's Christmas this year. My grandfather said his traditional Catholic prayer then he turned to me and asked that I speak God's words at the Christmas meal. I was honored and humbled. As I said the prayer from my heart thanking Christ for all He has done in our lives, I became disheveled and then it hit me. God had taken the person who was considered the black sheep (the lowest) of the family and given me the honor to praise Him "The Most High," to testify about Him and give testimony to my family. "But he that is the greatest among you shall be your servant." Matthew 23:11 Hallelujah!!! I haven't had but a handful of Christmas experiences in the past fifteen years at home with family. I had chosen a

path of unruly, outlaw behavior. I missed many years of being in the presence of family due to incarceration. I watched my children grow up while I was in The Polk County Jail. In the height of my criminal life I spent years in our state's correctional system for numerous drug convictions. During these stays at the Jail I would be approached by Chaplain Jerry Van Cleave. He would come and pray with me when I asked for prayer. I lost a loved one while incarcerated. He reached out to my family in the many times of grief in unsolicited support and prayer. As time passed we procured a relationship based on love and truth. He spent countless hours in prayer with me and set me on a vigorous course of

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PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Additional churches, individuals and businesses would catch the vision of what our great God is doing here in the Polk County Jail Ministry, and at the D.O.C. to support them both prayerfully, and financially.
- Prayer for disciplers to join the team at the D.O.C. who are called and burdened for this new ministry. Ongoing training will be held for those interested. Supporting churches please spread the word of this opportunity to your congregations.
- Ongoing prayer for board member David Hamlin, his wife Edna, and son Jason as they each continue their battle with cancer.
- Volunteer John Fry as he struggles with prostate uses.
- Inmates and those getting out of prison would sense the need and desire to be disciplined and connect with a mentor, church and get employment.
- Volunteer Jose Maldonado who has a very painful condition with swelling by his right temple. He has an MRI this week.
- Volunteer Janet Schubert continued healing of stomach and intestinal issues.
- Prayer for a great working relationship and favor for the ministry with Sheriff Kevin Schneider and all the staff throughout the county and the Jail.
- Safety and a quick training for all the new employees with ongoing hiring demands of the Jail. Wisdom for the Sheriff's office in budgetary issues for 2022 as they arise.
- God protects and provides for the needs of the volunteers as they wait to come back. That they would keep the burden for the incarcerated alive in their hearts.
- God the Holy Spirit stirs the hearts of staff and the inmates with the Gospel message through the ministry's presence.
- Inmates awaken to watch Sunday services at 10:00 A.M., and also that the detention officers would be convinced of their benefit to the inmate population.
- God will move hearts of the inmate's family members at home and convict them of their spiritual needs.
- Prayer for released inmates to have the self-discipline to be active in, and attend a Bible believing local church, daily Bible reading, find a mentor, and get a job. This is especially hard with many churches closed because of Covid 19.
- I'm willing to speak at churches or organizations, so pray for opportunities to share about the ministry this coming year.
- Pray we all stay thankful, humble and broken before the KING OF KINGS!! Pray for more of His presence and Holy Spirit power.

ANSWERS:

- We received all the stamps needed for our Christmas event

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Bible study. Jerry led me to an understanding of the Word, how it could change my life, and the manifestations of what the Good News is all about. He's always sharing the love of Christ with others. Most implicitly with persons who've been incarcerated and battled the many facets of drug addiction. Over the years Chaplain Jerry would invite me countless times to attend church services at Grace upon my release and I would always say, "sure friend." I would never show. Every time I would drive by the steeple off the busiest interstate in the country and think about it. That was the place where all those sermons that Jerry recorded were filmed. How many times he invited and I didn't show, but yet I was willing to go to Jail and listen to every one of those messages? I am proud to say that is not my story today. I attended a church on the east side in 2015 and gave my heart to the Lord Jesus. I was soon baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. My life today is a testimony to what the character of God can do in a man's life, if he truly seeks. The

PTL!!! Thanks to each of you for all the stamps, donations to purchase them, and your powerful prayers!

- All the divine appointments throughout the month that inmates responded to the Gospel!! To God be the Glory!
- The answers for the D.O.C. needs as we have watched Him work.
- We are thankful for favor and good working relationships with the Sheriff's office.
- Hearts are open to the Gospel. The Holy Spirit's conviction is at work!
- More people are awakening to participate in the services on Sunday mornings.
- Lives of the incarcerated were deeply touched by the Christmas event. Even though we couldn't go into the housing units.
- God has blessed the ministry Board with unity, new members and strong wise leadership.
- I want to thank and praise God for each of you who partnered with us in 2021 to make it one of the greatest years ever. Each of you are truly an answer to our prayers!

MOST WANTED:

- Clothes closet needs: We are in need of men and women's winter coats, clothes - jeans, slacks, sweaters, sweat shirts.
- Any Christian paper back books by Tony Evans, David Jeremiah, C.S. Lewis, Anne Graham Lotz.

Ministry Monthly Report: December 2021

	<u>Monthly:</u>	<u>Ytd:</u>
Inmate Request:	652	8,431
One-on-One inmate counseling:	502	6,746
Religious reading materials given:	337	3,561
Bible Study groups:	71	772
Inmates involved with studies:	410	4,186
View Worship Service:	243	3,651
Volunteer Hours:	60	541
Number of Volunteers:	15	94
Bibles given:	191	2,549
Number of New Believers:	8	180

Bible verse that bears witness to my strength is 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds; casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing every thought to the obedience of Christ." Thank you so much Chaplain Jerry for never giving up on me and challenging me to approach life through God's perspective. I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the Grace congregation and enjoy this new life.

Here is another rescued life made possible by faithful partners like you!

Thank you! - Chaplain Jerry

**Please help
support**



**The
Polk County Jail
Ministry**

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