



Joe Emerson



Six ways the Father is still working in lives!

Thank you for partnering with us!! Your labor of love both in prayer and financial support is an incredible blessing and encouragement to me. What an **investment** you are making!! Each month you faithfully lift up prayers and give financially for the ongoing ministry to an average of 1100 incarcerated and nearly 600 Polk Co. Sheriff's office staff. It is my intention monthly to let each of you know how vital your **prayers**, and sacrificial **giving** are to this ministry.

Recently our country celebrated Labor Day when we honor the American worker. Have you ever thought about God working? The Bible states in Genesis 2:1-3, *the heavens and the earth were created in all their vast array. By the seventh day God had finished the work He had been doing; so He rested from all His work. God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it He rested from all His work that He had done in creation. Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work and keep it.* Work doesn't always require sweat because of exerting energy, but often work can be mental, or sometimes emotional as we listen to individual's burdens and heartaches. In fact when God created the heavens and the earth He simply spoke them into existence.

He wasn't tired when resting on the seventh day but set a precedence for mankind to observe. The Bible tells us that for the believer God is doing a good work and will bring to completion His work in us until our final day. Our Father God is continuing His work creating **brand new** men and women whose hearts have been rescued from the depths of sin. He allows us to see where He is working so that we might join Him in sharing the **good news**. Jesus was our

example of joining the Father where He was working. When you see Him working, join Him and He then brings results.

You know God the Father is at work in someone's life when you see six things that only He can do. First He will draw people to Himself John 6:44. Second, He causes people to seek after Him John 6:65. Third, He will reveal spiritual truth John 14:15-17. Fourth, God convicts the world of guilt regarding sin. Fifth, God convicts the world of righteousness, and lastly the Father convicts the world of judgment John 16:8. Typically the Father has prepared hearts by making them desperate for Him and to allow brokenness. This is the work the Father is doing in hearts. Work wasn't a part of the curse of sin. It was a way for man to accomplish a task, build his self-esteem, and gain self-worth. Today many people believe they're entitled, rather than to work for and earn a living. The statistics show that nearly 40% of Americans receive some form of assistance from government programs. Our desire with the PCJ Ministry is to encourage new believers upon their release to attend a good Bible preaching church, find an accountability partner, get a job, and work. Some may think we are only about spiritual change. When a heart is converted to Jesus Christ a person's life is changed for economic reasons as well. They actually get jobs and pay taxes. Many become hard workers, responsible, conscientious, dependable, and often are some of the best employees.

The Sheriff's staff does their work under extreme stress and public demands that can take a toll. The public's safety and protection comes with a 24 hour

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Tip of the Month:

The work God does in each of His children is good. He who began it, will complete us.

Joe Emerson – Another RESCUED Life!

I was brought up in a very dysfunctional family. My father was abusive to me, my brother, and my mother. He was a drug addict. My mother was very loving but struggled with alcohol. My parents got divorced when I was 6 years old. Both of them were in and out of treatment centers but never got the chance to break their sickness. When I was 14 years old my father was murdered, and 4 months later my mother passed away. This is when I started my journey to using drugs and alcohol. In 2015 I began to go in and out of jail, treatment centers, and

prison. It wasn't until April of this year that I turned my life over to Christ, and took my recovery seriously. I was tired and worn out from the struggle of a never ending chase. I didn't know what to do. While sitting alone in jail I prayed and begged God to take away this obsession. I asked Him to come into my heart and open my mind to something different. I had a visit from Shawn Melvin and Leah Driggers shortly after my prayer, and this was God at His finest. Hearing Shawn talk about Jesus Christ and

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365 day a year responsibility, because when off duty they are still mindful of their commitment to protect and serve. Just think of how quickly a Deputy must make split second decisions that impact lives. Those in dispatch for instance receive 50 to 100 calls per shift, each an emergency, and often with life or death

consequences. These unsung heroes need our support, prayers and respect for their dedication to work which is a high calling from God.

– In His Service,
Chaplain Jerry

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- This year's Banquet would be well attended and used of God to touch hearts and renew a commitment to pray and support the ministry.
- The Holy Spirit would bring 200 plus to the banquet and create a larger support base prayerfully and financially for the new vision of the ministry.
- Continued prayer for Board member David Hamlin, wife Edna, and son Jason, as they all battle cancer.
- God would keep each volunteer near to His heart as they await getting back into the Jail.
- Pray against the opposition that hinders the ministry.
- God will stir the hearts of staff, and the incarcerated with the Gospel message as communicated through His Word, faith based books, and other materials.
- Safety for our public servants the Detention Officers in the Jail, and the Deputies out on patrol as they drive our roads and highways and watch the inmates.
- Prayer for the Dispatchers with all the stressors of their daily responsibilities.
- Those who are disciples would see their personal responsibility to testify, and lead others to Christ. More inmates would then respond to the Gospel because of them.
- Inmates would awaken to watch Sunday services at 10:00 AM, also that the detention officers would make the services available to the inmates.
- More and more local churches would participate in this incredible ministry prayerfully, and financially as a viable mission's effort.
- God will move in hearts of family members of the incarcerated as the new believers share the gospel with them. Pray that family members would understand the glorious Gospel, and receive the LORD as their Savior!
- Those who have gone off to prison will stay faithful to read God's Word daily, and be active in sharing their faith.
- Prayer for released believers to have the self-discipline to go, and belong to an active Bible believing local church where they will use their spiritual gifts for God's glory. That they might find love and acceptance from the congregations, and jobs would be gained.
- Prayer warriors to do battle for the inmate's lives who have strongholds that are generational. That they might find victory and begin a new legacy for their families and future.

- Upcoming speaking engagements would be empowered by the Holy Spirit in local churches.
- God will use the upcoming Christmas event to touch cold and indifferent hearts of the inmates.
- That the 2500 stamps for Christmas would be provided by November 15.
- Encouragement for me while in the Jail serving

ANSWERS:

- Many are responding to the Gospel in the inmate led Bible studies PTL!!!
- Inmate requests have really increased significantly each week.
- The incarcerated are so open and broken to the Gospel message.
- The Holy Spirit is working to draw many to Himself.
- God is faithful to bring those back to Jail who have turned again to their old ways before it's too late.

MOST WANTED:

- 2500 stamps for the two Christmas cards given to each inmate.
- Clothing closet needs: Men's coats
- Specific paper back books five copies each: The Cross and the Switch Blade; The Harbinger; The Five Love Languages.

Ministry Monthly Report: September 2021

	Monthly:	Ytd:
Inmate Request:	774	6,497
One-on-One inmate counseling:	572	5,211
Religious reading materials given:	276	2,658
Bible Study groups:	61	574
Inmates involved with studies:	265	3,082
View Worship Service:	229	2,767
Volunteer Hours:	74	398
Number of Volunteers:	21	73
Bibles given:	223	1,917
Number of New Believers:	9	155

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what He is doing in his life was amazing to me. He is also working the 12 steps of alcoholics anonymous. Today he is a completely different person than before and I could tell through our conversations I wanted that also. I see the works of Jesus Christ around me, and what He is doing in my life. He has brought me out of the darkness, and into the light. Thank you for this journey, and the people you put in my path to help better my understanding. I give it all to you Lord. Jesus is my Lord and Savior!

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.)