



June 2015

Dear Supporters, Volunteers, Counselors, and Friends of Life's Key Ministry,

I've always liked numbers. When I was younger, I used to lay awake in bed simply to watch my clock change from one minute to the next. I knew all the numbers of the players for the Pirates and Penguins, and math was easily my favorite subject.

I use math all the time here at Life's Key. I need to know how many of each course goes out each week, when it's time to order more books and which ones to order, how much the weight is of each shipment, how much money is left in our post office account so we know when to deposit more, and all sorts of other little things. The main numbers for me, however, are the ones dealing with the courses.

This past month contained our 10,000th course mailed for the year so far. I love seeing that number consistently rise. While it's great that so many are going out, what we love most is when they come back. This year, I have tried to find a way to accurately calculate that, and while it has not been as easy as I thought, I am starting to see some results.

Taking into account only the courses we shipped out in 2015 through the end of March, we shipped out 2,543 packages containing anywhere from 1-3 courses, and received 1,628 of those back. That calculates to 64%, which is lower than I would like to see. Understanding that sometimes it can take inmates quite a while to complete the courses, I looked at only the month of January. We sent out 810 packages and received 552 back, which is 68%. The overall ECS percentage nationwide is around 70%, so that puts us pretty close to the average.

That's a lot of statistics, but the point is just to emphasize that God is working through us and working in these prisons! Most of the new enrollments we get come from the inmates themselves, who share the enrollment cards we give them with others. Pray for the ministry, pray for our students, and we will continue to praise the Lord as He changes lives.

“But the very hairs of your head are all numbered” - Matthew 10:30

“I just want to say thank you for all of your time and effort when it comes to the Bible studies. Thank you for offering them to prisoners free of charge. I learn a lot from the Bible studies, and I am just grateful for them. I just wanted to say thank you!” - Bryant (Ohio)

“Blessed be the Lord, our Mighty One, the King of the universe. Thank you for these lessons. Soon, if it be in our Master's will, I'll have a gift of a few stamps for you. It's not much from the view of mega-budgets, but the Lord once took a little bread and a few fish and fed thousands. You provide postage-paid envelopes, and that has often been my only means of participating in a study with God in His word.

May his blessings continue to be poured on your ministry; may your generosity be rewarded with the uncountable souls in heaven because of your obedience; may your wisdom in stewardship be multiplied ten million times ten million.”
- Doug (Virginia)

May all we do be for the glory of God!

Tim Priano, Director

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