

May 2019,

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

On my trip to Florida in February, I was able to speak to two vastly different groups of people in the same day. The first group included those we work so hard to serve; a roomful of inmates at Columbia Correctional Institution, about an hour west of Jacksonville. The second group included those who are part of the new ministry that is working with those inmates, and is growing a presence in eight other local institutions.

At C.C.I., I had the privilege to speak to about 90 men about what we do, how we do it, and why we do it. I shared with them what Emmaus International is, and how the courses they publish are distributed by Life's Key and other ministries. I explained what is available to them; the courses, the exams, and the wonderful words of life included in each one. That it's a no-cost, no-risk opportunity to learn more about the God that created heaven and earth, and knows every detail of history from beginning to end, including the fact that they would be at this meeting at this very moment. And that while we are here to serve the Lord, we do this for them. Our gain is the encouragement of seeing them come to Christ and grow in their Christian walk.

I then got to talk to a new group of prison ministry volunteers that evening at Christ's Church in Jacksonville. Having just come from spending time in the prison, it was very easy to share the message that this ministry means something, even if they will not see the faces of those they are helping. Regardless of the task, all the moving parts of this ministry come together to show Christ to individuals who desperately need to experience His love. I was also thrilled to share with them that 55 of the 90 men in the meeting at C.C.I. signed up for courses after the meeting. How awesome it was to see how the Lord stirred their hearts! But also a thrill, is to see how the Lord has stirred the hearts of those who volunteer their time to be a part of each student's experience. Even if they never meet face to face on this side of Glory, everyone involved is part of God's greater plan, one in which we can rejoice!

"But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as He wanted them to be." - 1 Corinthians 12:18

"I humbly apologize for the untimely delay in getting started, completing, and then mailing these lessons in. You see, an acquaintance of mine sent my name in to you. I asked him to do so because I thought I was ready to follow Christ. I knew that He was my Lord and Savior, but I was totally wrong in my thinking of wanting to follow Him.

I had one foot in the world, and the other in Christ, and unbeknownst to me until recently, that will never work! Although I went to church every week, I didn't read my Bible unless I was in some sort of trouble, and I was addicted to a drug called suboxone. I recently hit rock bottom and came to the realization that my way does not work, and that although I am doing life without parole, I can still be free! Free from drugs, free from stress, and free from worry if I simply place my trust in Christ and follow Him!

I used to spend every waking moment on how I was to make enough money to get more suboxone so that I could get high. Now I am proud to say that I have not gotten high in over two months, and although I have had the urge to do so from time to time, God has helped guide me through by giving me the strength to turn it down, and making it easier and easier for me to say, "no"!

So again, I humbly apologize for the delay, and I give my word that with God's helping hands, I will stay on course and do all future lessons in a timely manner. Smile...and God bless!" - Clayton (Michigan)

For HIS Glory,

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