



September 2018,

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

Please keep us in prayer as we are about to go through another trial. As you may have seen in the news by now, all state facilities in Pennsylvania are on lockdown because staff have been falling ill from exposure to a contraband synthetic drug. One article said that 21 prisons were now closed to visitors, and all non-legal mail service has been stopped for close to 50,000 inmates. Department of Corrections policy has classified it as a state of emergency, which suspends all inmate privileges.

This is an unprecedented event. Governor Tom Wolf said, "For the Department of Corrections to do a statewide lockdown, we all know we have a problem. That's not the norm. That doesn't happen." There have also been reports that more than two dozen staffers at Ross Correctional Institution, in Ohio, had possible drug exposure. Because of the severity of this, it is impossible to predict how this will affect our ability to correspond with inmates in Pennsylvania, Ohio, or perhaps the whole country going forward.

As we just went through with Michigan, we have begun to take precautions. I pulled out 17 packages of courses and 22 birthday cards set to be mailed this week, and we have no choice but to hold all mail going into those facilities until the lockdown is lifted. But even then, I anticipate much more strict regulations to come.

Now, all that being said, we have total confidence that God has always been and will always be in complete control! There are no surprises or mistakes with Him. We often do not know the greater plan, but that is ok. We will continue to move forward and pray for His will to be done. Please pray for a few things. That those affected by this exposure would recover. That none of these substances would find their way to our home office. That despite losing the ability to mail into at least 21 of our institutions, we would continue to have enough each week to reach the number of 200 needed to utilize bulk mailing. That future restrictions will not hinder our ability to mail courses to inmates. That our students located in these areas who desire to grow closer to the Lord would continue to find strength in Him and not be discouraged. Thank you!

"For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', made His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed." - 2 Corinthians 4:6-9

*\*\*thought question from Summary of the Bible - "What is your favorite Bible story, and why is it your favorite? "\*\**

*"Job. I have dealt with depression for many years. I read Job anytime I start to feel it creeping up on me. I blamed God for it for many years. Then I started reading the Bible, and have seen how Job reacted to losing all he had. I never had what Job did, and he never blamed God. I told God I was sorry for blaming Him, asked for forgiveness, and got it. Now He leads me where He wants." - Duane (Pennsylvania)*

For HIS Glory,

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