

**Newsletter of PMA** 

Our Mission: "Reaching Prisoners for Christ!"

Spring/Summer 2018

# "The Greenhouse Effect"- God working behind bars!

We have a new video you can watch on our website and YouTube channel, called The Greenhouse Effect.

With our explosive growth and bottle neck at the home office to handle any more lessons we are decentralizing to have local churches, individuals, and hopefully soon inmate church communities distributing and correcting PMA Lessons called **Bible Correspondence Fellowship ministry** (BCF).

We would like to **share with you the different ways this is being done** so you can pray and also consider how you might reach your local jail and prison with the gospel using our PMA lessons. We now have more lessons going out through combined BCF's than our home office which is very exciting!

Local Church distributes lessons in local jails/prisons, collects them each week and has volunteers correct them. This way there is no postage expenses and inmates get quicker turnaround each week getting new lessons and certificates each week. Examples of this: Bitely Community Church, Bitely, MI., Grace Community Church, Grafton, OH and Brown Road Baptist Church, Mesa, AZ.



Pastor Ken Lyon, Bitely Community Church with Dwight

Local Church has setup a PO Box or uses their mailing address for inmates to mail in lessons and they have volunteers correct the lessons and mail back the next lesson with certificates.

Examples of this would be Berean Church, Muskegon, MI. and Altoona Bible Church, Altoona, PA



Carolyn Raymond, Berean Church, with Dwight

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Individuals that have setup a PO Box for inmates to mail in lessons. They write to people who they read about in local papers who get arrested and send them an encouraging note about how God loves them and can help them through what they are going through. They include the one page short intro lesson and encourage them to study Gods word. Example of this is Gene and Bev Lynn, Franklin, NC. They have been doing this 13 years now! Their story is the one on our handout of "How to start your own BCF"



Gene & Bev Lynn with Dwight

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Partner with a Prison ministry. We can give other groups permission to use our lessons to send to their existing students. Example here is New Creations Prison Ministries, Grand Rapids, Mich. They are using our lessons compete with no changes. I visited their office when I went to GR in April. They sent out 1200 lessons last month, Praise the Lord!



Dwight with Colleen Christie, New Creations PM

### Steps to start your own BCF:

- 1. Pastor Dwight can come and visit your church to share the vision and opportunity
- 2. Recruit a coordinator to lead your local ministry
- 3. Contact local jails and prison chaplains to distribute lessons with your PO Box on them
- 4. Recruit several volunteers to correct lessons



#### Karen Bodeutsch PMA Operations Manager—WA

What does the Word of God do for you? Does every line, verse, and page lead you closer to God?

Some people see the Bible as a storybook, full of wondrous exploits, heroes, and villains. Others see the Bible as a textbook, something to be studied, memorized, or used to impress others with their knowledge. In addition, some see the Bible as a source material for sermons and Bible studies, and are contented to walk away from it once they delivered their sermon or Bible study.

While none of these may be bad in themselves, but alone, they miss the true purpose of God's Word, which is Christlikeness. The Apostle Paul calls it the riches of the glory of the mystery.

"Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God; Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles is; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:25-27 KJV).

One of the joys I have as the Operations Director is reading the comments prisoners include in their lessons. Many of them GET IT! Like this inmate; "Another valuable study in His Word! Every line, every verse, every page leads me closer to God. Through Jesus alone I have the strength and drive to pray and study unceasingly."

### Inmate testimonial:

I surrendered my life to Christ in August 2013. Since that time I have read the Bible several times and completed Les Feldick through the bible studies to book 48. Then found info about PMA and started your studies. Since coming to prison the Lord Jesus Christ has taught me to listen and hear His plan for my life.

The Prison Mission course is so vital to me because it gives me the direction to gain wisdom and knowledge of my Father's Word, which I prayed for. I am learning how to study what the Lord is saying to His people and how to share what I learn with others. Our work is to tell of the good news so others can find the Lord and give Him praise and honor as they receive Him into their heart.

I have been blessed that Jesus has allowed me to witness His wonderful work in others lives who I have spoken with about Him. He is just so awesome!

I pray for all those involved in the Prison ministries. May Gods blessing be upon you and your families. - A.S.

## **Praise and Prayer Points**

Praise God for all our wonderful PMA team: for Karen's great leadership managing the operations with our expanding growth, all our faithful volunteers, board members, and for all of you who pray, give and partner with us in the exciting ministry!

#### **Praise God for answers to Prayer:**

- Thank you for your prayers and support as we reached our matching gift at the end of last year and Pastor Dwight is now full-time!
- Pastor Dwight has a weekly radio show called "Prison Transformation Radio— Changing Hearts with Christ!" It is every Saturday at 1 pm central time.
   www.am980themission.com

#### **Prayer**

- We have interviewed a possible bilingual person to help us with our Spanish lessons. They approached us and live close to our headquarters so this could work really well.
- For God to call key leaders within the prisons to help distribute/correct lessons and plant prison churches.

Planting a church in Faribault MN prison. Pray for the prison officials now to be able to schedule a time for us to meet. We have 11 students there who are committed to being the core group. Pray also for Vern Hendrickson who will be leading and mentoring these men.

### **Coming Soon!**

Pray for the presentations coming up:

June 26 Rush City Prison, MN

June 28 International Bible givers , First Baptist Church, Anoka, MN

July 29 Oak Park Heights, MN

July 31 Lino Lakes Prison, MN

Aug. 25, 1 pm Live Radio show at the MN state fair.

Sept, 1, 1 pm Live Radio show at the MN state fair

Sept. 20 Red Wing Prison, MN

September 20-21 Prison Congregations of America, conference, Sioux Falls, SD.

Visiting Prison church congregation in South Dakota State Penitentiary

Oct 2 Moose Lake Prison, MN

Oct. 14 Rush Creek Bible Church, Mich. Home Missions Conference

Oct. 17 Stillwater Prison, MN

### Do you really need a will?

Having a will is arguably one of the most important things you can do for yourself and your family. Not only can a will legally protect your spouse, children, and assets, it can also spell out exactly how you would like things handled after you have passed on.

At PMA, we would be happy to work with you on how to include PMA in your will or living trust that could help minimize estate taxes for you.

The ability to make gifts is a good reason to have a will because it allows your legacy to live on and reflect your personal values and interests. In addition, gifts up to \$13,000 are excluded from estate tax, so you're also increasing the value of your estate for your heirs and beneficiaries to enjoy.