

“WALKING IN THE LIGHT”

Kings Crossing Prison Ministries

A NEWS REVIEW & EDUCATIONAL TOOL OF JAIL-PRISON MINISTRIES IN CHURCHES OF CHRIST
Buck Griffith, Editor

“Endeavoring to teach the Gospel to every person everywhere before Jesus returns”

PRIORITIES

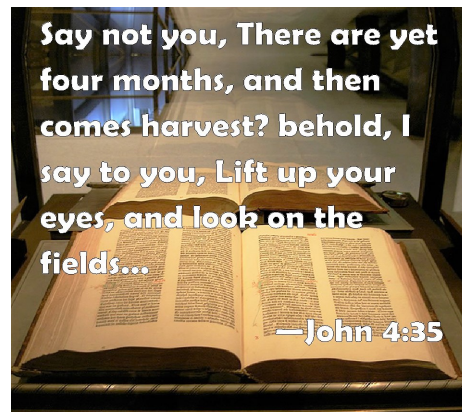
The nature of prison ministry is more fluid than you might think. Well – maybe it is better to say *it is more fluid than I think*. Leaving a career serving juveniles and their families to come to this great work is a continual learning curve (like a Nascar driver who is always turning left on the racetrack!) And Kings Crossing Prison Ministries is a well-oiled machine. Karlene and I are joining an excellent staff in Buck Griffith, Pat and Glenda Watson, Raquel Rivera, and a host of volunteers. Plus, keep in mind that Buck will continue to stay on and help steer me in moving this work forward. So, when I write to you in terms of priorities going forward, just know that Buck and I have been in the room collaborating. There are four levels of Kings Crossing Prison Ministries: South Texas, the State of Texas, other states throughout this country, and through *Baptistries Around the World* – 40 foreign nations.



Priority One must be to start re-inserting our physical presence into prisons while our Bible study by mail efforts continue. Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) prisons are working to reach a 70% vaccination threshold of staff and inmates. As each prison unit reaches this level, doors will once again open to prison ministry volunteers. We must be ready when that happens. Many units are getting close (in the 60's range). As of September 1st, there was a total of 992 active cases statewide out of a prison population of more than 140,000 (*source: www.tdcj.texas.gov/covid-19/mac_dashboard.html, and www.tdcj.texas.gov/search_results.html*). This is less than 1%.

This means we need instructors to teach! Kings Crossing Prison Ministries utilizes the New Life Behavior curriculum which has been approved by many chaplains throughout the country. I recently met with a chaplain new to TDCJ. After he had an opportunity to look at the NLB material and saw its focus on practical application of God's Word to an understanding of oneself in relationship to God, how to develop Godly attitudes and behaviors, family relationships, managing anger and money, dealing with addiction and more – his response was, *“I've got to have this on my unit! As soon as we reach 70%, I would like to have classes.”* In conversations with those in authority, I have repeatedly heard, *“This is exactly what our inmates need.”* It is thrilling to hear this from those whose hands are on the handle to the doors of prisons! It also means already approved TDCJ volunteers need to be ready to return and those who are interested need to *get ready*.

You can almost hear Jesus at that well in Samaria saying to His disciples: “Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest” (John 4:35). If you are interested in becoming a teacher, go to the NLBM website (www.nlbm.org) to learn more about how you can get prepared.



- Dale Underwood

"LEGACY" FUNDS UPDATE



Thank you for generously responding to our **Rachel N. Kolb** and **Buck & Janet Griffith Legacy Funds** to ensure the permanency and long-term future of this fruitful ministry. As a result, we will be adding another \$25,230!

Combined, the total exceeds \$1,000,000! Today, our dream is to see it reach \$10,000,000. As it grows, the ministry is less dependent on day-to-day donations or ups and downs of the economy.



When making a gift to either fund, spell it out on the "memo" line of your check. Also, we urge more donors to give electronically through our website – www.kingscrossingprisonministries.org. This helps maintain a more consistent level of regular support.

Putting Together a SINGING Group to Assist the Reconciled & Renewed Team in Seminars

Dale Underwood is seeking to organize a powerful group of singers to join our *Reconciled & Renewed team* in jail and prison seminars. Our goal is to conduct four seminars annually. The seminars reinforce local workers, strengthen their presence, and open new doors of opportunity. If interested in joining this team in any capacity, contact Dale. Both men and women are needed.



Gifts of Remembrance & Gratitude

Many ministry friends find this a meaningful way to remember loved ones and honor persons who have made a difference in their lives – living or not. Whether a person just passed away or died decades ago, it is a marvelous feeling to know that you or a loved one is remembered.

Received from:

Mary Ann Cloud
M/M Frank Maxey
Mary Ann Cloud
April Askew
M/M Buck Griffith
M/M Bob Wachtel
M/M Frank Maxey
Bobbie Harville

In Memory of:

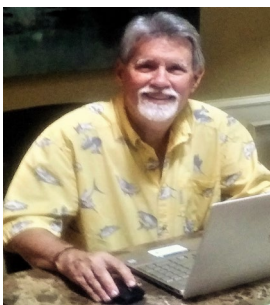
Hattie Cloud
Kenneth Watson
Cristina Capo
Marjorie Vickers
Joshua Bebout
Bess Coppinger
Joshua Bebout
Kav Skruzs

Received from:

M/M Dale Underwood
M/M Buck Griffith
M/M Bob Wachtel
M/M Buck Griffith
M/M Frank Maxey
M/M Bob Wachtel
M/M Yancy Griffith
Iovce Maxwell

In Memory of:

Kenneth Watson
Kenneth Watson
Kenneth Watson
Bess Coppinger
Bess Coppinger
Joshua Bebout
Kenneth Watson
Jack Graham



GARY THOMPSON RETIREMENT

With deep regret, we announce the September 30th retirement of co-worker – Gary Thompson. Gary taught weekly in Nueces County Jail and handled Spanish Bible correspondence students and others. He recently survived a difficult bout of Covid-19. We pray the Lord's blessings on Gary and Ann. For the present, he will continue preaching for the church in Ingleside.