



Missionary Evangelism to Corrections

Sharing the gospel & Christ's love with those in corrections since 1982
I was in prison and you came to me Matt. 25:36cESV

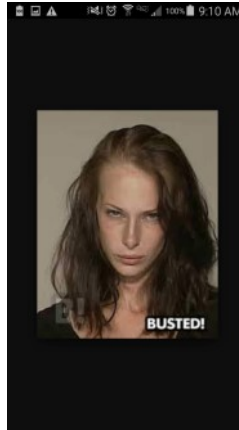
Please go to our ENCOURAGEMENT PAGE to listen to and read songs and messages that will encourage you during this time.

www.mecjailministry.com

- [Here are the topics you will find links to](#)
- [Bible Verses for Encouragement - During Trials](#)
- [CARES ACT](#)
- [China and America relations A Friend in Need by Marty Pagano](#)
- [Christian Workout for CV time](#)
- [Crown Financial Ministries](#)
- [Dear God Please put an end to CV](#)
- [Don't cripple those saving lives by buying the things they need](#)
- [Government Stimulus Check](#)
- [Heart of the City All over the World are Singing and Dancing to He is Our One True God](#)
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March 31st 2020

Spotlight Chelsea Garrison



Coming from your typical American household where Bibles are on the

shelves but not read and church only happens on Christmas and Easter, I heard about God minimally. We only gave thanks for our food when we were with my Grandparents. I grew up fast, learning many things at an early age and at 12 years old, I began using drugs and alcohol. Shortly after this, around 13 or 14, I was invited to go to church with a close friend. During that time, I felt great. I knew deep down that this was the right thing to be doing with my life.



After moving to a new place, I made new friends and, to fit in, quickly turned away from the good things I had been doing. I went back to drugs and alcohol but this time, tried new things. I felt sorry for going back to what I knew was wrong, but I loved my sin too much. Smoking weed and drinking alcohol led to cocaine, acid and mushrooms, then very frequent use of ecstasy.

Finding out I was pregnant at the age of 18 kept me sober, but after my daughter was born, I continued drinking and partying and was kicked out of the house for irresponsibility. At the age of 22, I became pregnant. When my son was 6 months old, I was introduced to meth. I knew I'd never use anything else again. I thought I had all I ever wanted in that drug. It didn't take long for life to spin out of control. I lost weight (going down to eighty pounds), my job and apartment. Living in the car made caring for my children even more difficult.

During this time, I experienced the extreme spiritual wickedness that comes [Spotlight Chelsea Cont.. on pg. 2](#)

Warning or Judgment? Has the First Thing Jesus Taught Hit Home Yet?

"Do you think this [corona virus epidemic] is judgement?" she asked?

"It may be judgement, but at the least it is warning." was the response.

A few years ago, God impressed me to "Sound the Alarm". In the February 28, 2013 Newsletter I wrote "Sound the Trumpet". Using the word Trumpet softened the message as the trumpet can be used as a warning or a call to worship. I feared that being very direct would sound alarmist and no one would listen, but also needed to pay heed to the idea that if prophets did not give out warnings from the LORD, they would be held responsible. In this call to repentance, I wrote about how words were changed so that right was not trusted or heeded and wrong was accepted as right. Changes that were taking place then were similar to changes that took place in countries where atrocities eventually took place. I spoke about how hard it is

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March Highlights

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 Ministry Friend Shoutout: MN Adult & Teen Challenge and
 God is Good Gamez.....page 4



Photo from unsplash

with using meth. Knowing that you are doing something wrong and could get caught anytime and the spiritual darkness that filled the rooms caused a physical presence of evil pressure I felt on my head.

When I was alone it was sheer terror.

After being homeless for five months I was in a place that I had no business being. My son was in the car and so were some burglary tools. When I was arrested, my children were removed from my care. I had been incarcerated before and the Bible Studies in the jail gave me hope because the volunteers were able to explain things and to answer questions for me. This time a few days in Anoka County Jail allowed me to sleep off the 2 years of daily use and finally eat something. Losing my children because I wanted to get high haunted me. I

was thankful for the time I was given in jail, because it gave me the opportunity to get my act together. But I was also extremely fearful that I'd never regain custody of my children. I couldn't let my children go; this was my opportunity to finally get away from this life of drugs and crime which I was enslaved to. I had 6 months to show I could be a good mother, or my parental rights would be terminated.

After release, I went to stay at a homeless shelter. I was enjoying the time to eat and sleep and looking forward to making things right this time. One afternoon, I went to eat at Subway. While I was there, a man looked at me through the lunch rush crowd to tell me that Jesus loves me. I didn't

know how to respond so I just said, "Yeah, you too," and got out of there as soon as I could. I didn't realize it then, but God had sent that man to that restaurant, at that specific time just to deliver a message to me. He was beginning a good work in my life that won't be completed until the day of Jesus Christ (Phil. 1:6, KJV). I have been in contact with this man since then. Please join me in prayer against Spiritual warfare for this brother in Christ.

While at the homeless shelter, I came across a full box of donated New Testaments. I took one and started reading and things started to happen. I was invited to go to church and Bible Study by a lady who was also a resident of the shelter. Eventually I went and met a group of genuinely loving Christians. We hung out the entire day and I found out they also were all in recovery from drugs and alcohol. I continued going to this Bible study week after week and they kept asking me if I was born again. At first, I had no clue what that meant. They took the time to explain to me that to be born again was to be given the Holy Spirit, to have my heart transformed by God to where He causes me to love righteousness and hate wickedness.

I continued to search the Scriptures and seek God. After a few weeks, I realized I had been forgiven. God was doing an amazing work in my heart. Not only did I receive the most amazing gift of forgiveness for sins and a fresh start, I also met the man I married in that Bible study, and we began seeking God together. The Lord was preparing a Godly place for my children to come home to. The children were returned to my care in exactly 6 months and my husband and I were married a month later. God provided a

solid foundation and gave me an amazing husband who had received the same grace out of a life of addiction. This laid the foundation for my children to be welcomed back to a stable, Christ centered home where they would be trained up in the way they should go. Five years later we have had two more tiny gifts and another one on the way.

Shortly after I came to the LORD I was on fire and wanted to be able to volunteer sharing Christ in the jail, but it was not God's timing. While Josh and I were going to Celebrate Recovery. I met Amanda Rose there. She was applying to volunteer for MEC and asked me to be a reference. As I gave her reference and learned more about the ministry, I became an intercessor.

Not only am I clean from drugs and alcohol, but I have been washed by the blood of Jesus, cleansed of my sin (Rev. 1:5, KJV). Praise Him!



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Jesus, cleansed of my sin (Rev. 1:5, KJV).

*Praise Him!
Chelsie Garrison*

If My People Songs
 Jeffery — Do Not Fear
 Lord Prop Us Up
 Matt & Brianna YWAM
 Messages to read or listen to for Encouragement During CV and Trials
 My Help Comes From the LORD
 Pray Together with Presidential Prayer Team
 Prayers for our World during this time
 Said Helpers
 Small Business Owners Guide to the CARES act
 Songs for Encouragement and Worship During Trials
 Thank You! The King is Coming! - Gaithers
 You Know My Name - Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir



Hit Home Yet? Cont. from pg. 1

to receive warnings and how heeding them is what will bring life. Warnings come from God’s goodness and examining ourselves, repenting and walking in the LORD’s truth bring life

When Solomon dedicated the temple in First Kings chapter eight, he asked God to help make us to fear Him, repent and return to the LORD, walk with Him and love Him with all of our hearts. It is a prayer we need to pray now. Over the years, we have sung the verses from 2 Chronicles 7:14 if My people (see picture). We had met often for prayer over the year’s prayer meetings have become rare.

Matthew’s mention of Jesus Word’s in chapter two during his temptation are “that we do not live by bread alone, we are not to put God to the test and that we should worship and serve God alone. We need these foundations. But the first thing Jesus taught when He began public ministry was “Repent, /turn from your sins, for the Kingdom of Heaven is here/near/at hand.” Later in Matthew He lamented and “began to denounce/upbraid/rebuke the towns in which he had done most of his miracles, because the people had not repented, they had not turned from their sins to God.”

Jesus said the greatest command was to Love God with all of our hearts and to love our neighbor as ourselves. (Duet. 6, Matt. 22, Mk. 12 & Lk 10) In his book about “The Emotionally Healthy Church, Peter Scazzero and Warren Bird explain of how our spiritual growth involves emotional healing and growth. This leads to depth in relationship with others, including those who are not like us. Scazzero’s early learning (and likewise many who are in ministry) kept him from seeing what was going on internally or emotionally. When he began to see Christ’s emotional depth, such as being greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved, weeping, anger, being furious, amazed and astonished, longing to be with the disciples and compassion for widows, lepers and blind men., he began to understand and grow emotionally and in relationship ` (Scazzero, Pg. 76)



Part of the rapid spread through Europe has been attributed to the public parades that are a part of the culture and a recent Twin Cities newspaper article chronicled concern about the rapid spread during Mari Gras. It would be easy to say that this corona virus is a judgement on the country and pray about how we can have an impact on those whose lifestyles are different than ours, but this scripture was written to those who are God’s people.

The difficulty is in humbling ourselves, becoming childlike (Matt. 18) and letting Him heal us. When we open our heart to Him and He brings up something that was painful and that we have not forgiven, or we have tried to forgive and not dealt with the pain, we block healing that will last and the progress that will help us love better. When I worked as a nurse there was a gentleman who’s amputated leg had healed over with the infection inside. The doctor broke it open and we sterilized it and packed it with gauze several





times a day, so that it would heal correctly from the inside out. This is a vivid picture of how we need to heal emotionally from the inside. In Matthew twenty-three, Christ referred to it as cleaning the inside of the cup. If God brings something from our hearts to our minds and we confess our pain and unforgiveness and pray for healing, that is different than gossiping or repeating the offense to convince ourselves or others we are right. Repenting is changing our mind to agree with God. It is cleaning out the old and filling it with the new. It takes humility to admit we are not correct and to adopt His ways of acceptance and love for both ourselves and others.

One of the good things that a friend noticed which has come from this is seeing people were slowing down. Those that were too busy running from one obligation or activity to the next before were walking with their children outside. I for am hoping to get to some of the things I have been putting off for a long time. God has brought up at least three relationships that needed some healing and allowed me to pray with one and for two others and helped me realize some healing that makes going forward in current relationships growth in His Kingdom of God.

A popular post on Facebook says this. "In three short months, just like He did with the plagues of Egypt, God has taken away everything we worship. God said, "you want to worship athletes, I will shut down the stadiums. You want to worship musicians; I will shut down Civic Centers. You want to worship actors; I will shut down theaters. You want to worship money; I will shut down the economy and collapse the stock market. You don't want to go to church and worship Me, I will make it where you can't go to church"

"If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

Maybe we don't need a vaccine, Maybe we need to take this time of isolation from the distractions of the world and have a personal revival where we focus on the ONLY thing in the world that really matters. Jesus.

And how do we focus more on Jesus?

Take these questions with you. Who He is He and what did He teach? What is and am I, repentant? What is and how can I seek His kingdom?

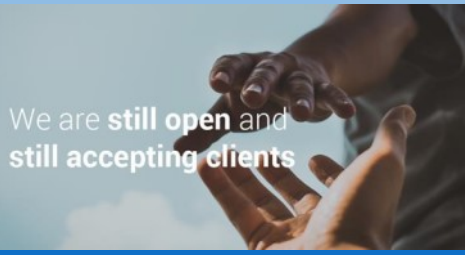
The apostle Paul said it this way “

The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.” (Gal. 5:6b)

**We know we are not alone in Ministry and so each month do a shout-out to others
This Months are doing two shoutouts One for MNATC and one as a resource for you at home**

**MN Adult and Teen Challenge
Outpatient, Licensed Treatment and
Long Term Discipleship**

The world right now is full of uncertainty, and you know that addiction doesn't stop for COVID-19; in fact, the rates and severity of addiction escalates during times of crisis - such as natural disasters, wars, and pandemics. Because of that, we are still open now and plan on staying open and till accepting new clients after a careful screening process.



We are still open and still accepting clients

God is Good Gamez exists to bring glory to God by ...
Use(ing) creativity, interactional fun and a tangible rewards system to increase personal faith, [realize more] of who God is and grow personally ...
Using steady, incremental change of habits for the right reasons, we Maximum Motivation around what Matters

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