

Missionary Evangelism to Corrections

Reaching those in Corrections for Christ

I was in prison and you came to visit me. Matthew 25:36b

January 3, 2012

Dear MEC Volunteer,

We are so glad to have you join us. In being with MEC, you are on the frontline of ministering to people the love and message of Jesus. We trust you are being built up in your own faith, being built up together in Christ in your own churches and with other volunteers. As we work together, *He who plants and He who waters are one. We are God's fellow workers and His building.* (1 Cor. 3:9) *We must be careful how we build* (3:10). *As living stones* (1 Peter 2:5) *we are being built together for a dwelling place of God's Spirit.* It is important to know that you are part of something bigger than just going in and doing a service by yourself. We are here to support you with prayer and hear your praises. We also expect that you are praying for each other. We all benefit by your prayers for us.

By now, you have:

- received an introduction to MEC through visiting a service, hearing a speaker, or viewing our website.
- looked over the BASIC FLYER which includes our Statement of Faith & Qualifications for Volunteers.
- received an Overview Newsletter listing the areas where we minister and the process of volunteering.

Note: You can view older newsletters and the calendar of service on the website, to give you a broader scope of our ministry to help you pray for key areas.

- your references have been checked and you have had an interview with MEC staff.
- your application to volunteer with MEC has been accepted
- spoken with your church about your involvement and asked for prayer support.

Note: if you would like your church to be on a list on a list of Church Contacts, which is given to Inmates looking for a church home, please verify with us that your church is on the list.

Training Overview

MEN AND WOMEN'S RESOURCE LISTS:

- Updated regularly, sent out periodically
- *These resources may make the difference between an individual succeeding or going back to crime.*
- The resources are divided into four groups: Men's, Women's, Teens, and General. The general resources include Work; Written, Web & Radio and Christian Recovery Meetings.
- Give individual inmates the resources specific to their group and the general resources.
- Make sure inmates keep track of their papers and do not leave them laying around.
- We cannot schedule them into programs; it is their responsibility to apply and the jail staff or court's and programs responsibility to decide if they are admitted. If they want applications to a certain program, have them talk to the re-entry volunteer (if there is one available) or jail staff.

EVALUATION FORM: The Evaluation Form is not mandatory, but the top half is helpful for getting feedback from those who attend your services or Bible studies and allows them to write a prayer request that you can forward to us for the intercession letter. The bottom half can be used in some jails and not others. Do not turn them in to jail staff.

MISSIONARY EVANGELISM TO CORRECTIONS

PO BOX 542, WYOMING, MN 55092

SAUL & KAREN SELBY—DIRECTORS mec@usfamily.net 651-408-1300

SUBSTITUTION & CANCELLATION POLICY: These are not in the training packet because they are specific to the facility you are in. Make sure you have a current one from our office. As a MEC volunteer, you are responsible for covering your scheduled services; however, if there is a time when you are unable to do so, use the Substitution & Cancellation Policy. You will use the one for the county that you are a volunteer in. Please contact someone on the list to Sub for you. If you cannot find anyone, follow the directions about canceling. We want to avoid canceling whenever possible. You may be the only person ministering to the inmate and usually the jail staff will not announce your service until you are on-site. Not showing up would be like going to church and having the pastor or bible study leader not show up.

BIBLE STUDIES: These are examples. Revelation 12:11 speaks about the martyrs who overcame the accuser by the blood of the Lamb, the Word, and their testimony; and they did not love their life, even unto death. You may use bible study guides, but the best approach is often teaching directly from scripture.

TEACHING PRINCIPLES AND HELPS: These are summaries of trainings, and are vital to review. They are only in outline form, so if you have any questions about these areas, please call and ask.

VICTORY OVER ADDICTIONS CURRICULUM: A description of the curriculum, and the topics covered.

MEC CCLI AND SONG SELECT LICENSE: MEC has acquired a license to legally print the lyrics and music of copyrighted worship songs for MEC services. This describes how to access the service; this sheet also needs to be signed, acknowledging that each volunteer will protect this license, and returned to MEC.

BIBLES:

Paul Montain will bring Bibles to the jails that you are ministering in when they do not have enough of them. overseeing our Bible Distribution. If the Bibles do not have labels on them, please put them on. (Exception: HENNEPIN OR RAMSEY ADC's. Inmates have used other stickers mischievously and they have been banned there.) Ask your church if they are willing to help provide Bibles or go to International Bible Givers.

International Bible Givers is run by Wally and Tiger Johnson. They can be reached at 763-421-8742. They live in Anoka and are the founders of International Bible Givers. They are a break off of International Bible Society, that is able to buy in smaller quantities and from various sources. They take donations and give Scriptures where needed. If you use IBG to obtain a number of Bibles, please ask your church if they can make a donation to IBG. They have a buffet each month in Anoka which helps them with visibility. Donations increase if a representative goes to the meeting as a courier to accept the Bibles and tells banquet attendees where they are going to be used. You can also order Bibles from their website at <http://www.igivebibles.org/>

Please keep in touch at least one time a month at 651-408-1300, mec@usfamily.net or mail us an update. Being faithful in the small things prevents items from growing into frustrating situations.

OUR HEARTS ARE DAILY FILLED WITH CONSTRAINT FOR THE CHURCH AND OVERFLOW WITH GRATITUDE FOR EACH ONE OF YOU!!!!!!

Saul & Karen

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Communication Expectations

Dear MEC Jail Volunteers,

When I look at the way the Lord is blessing the ministry, despite our humanness, I am thankful beyond words. Every day you are in our prayers. As our trust in the Lord and His hand in this work grows, it stretches us. As we are stretched, we want to make sure that we are not trying to finish in the flesh what the Lord is doing in the Spirit. At the same time, we need to be aware of the state of our fields and watching over our responsibilities with good stewardship.

MEC is responsible to the specific jails for our volunteers. Jail staff relies on us to keep track of the services we provide. It is imperative to us to hear from you.

Karen used to be able to call everyone at least three times a year and relied on calls from you in between. This ensured everything was running smoothly. I can help you work out situations with the staff, as they arise. *I need to hear from you early on if there is a difficulty* and regularly as services are going well. As we are growing, I need to rely on your communication more.

This communication and your attendance at the events encourages us to continue this work. It is a blessing to see how God works in all of our lives, maturing and bonding us.

Please send monthly reports to mec@usfamily.net, mail to the PO Box or call us. Please include: *turnout, topic, response, prayer requests, praise reports*. If you are finding a particular topic or approach that is getting great response, please include that also. The prayer requests will go to the intercessors and both the requests and the praise reports will be generalized in order to send missions reports to give God the glory in what He is doing.

MEC has always had a strong emphasis on working together and making sure you are covered in prayer both by those you know and MEC intercessors. Along with the reports, please remember our constant urging for prayer. *Have others pray for you, pray for each other* and for other volunteers, services, and inmates – especially those in the same jail you are serving in.

The updated substitution and cancellation policies will help you with substituting for each other, communication, and prayer.

We are extremely grateful for you and your work through MEC for the Lord!

In Him who perfects that which concerns us, (Ps 138)

In Christ,

Saul & Karen Selby

MISSIONARY EVANGELISM TO CORRECTIONS

PO BOX 542, WYOMING, MN 55092

Saul Selby, Director / Karen Selby, Associate Director 651-408-1300

mec@usfamily.net www.mecjailministry.com

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MEN'S RESOURCES

This is a list of possible resources where you can apply for help. The jail staff, courts, and individual programs determine admittance. MEC is not able to admit you. We will be praying for you.

TREATMENT AND DISCIPLESHIP PROGRAMS

THE MATTHEW HOUSE: 218-205-1033 213 E Summit Ave Fergus Falls, MN 56537 Christ-centered transitional program for men

TEEN CHALLENGE: (MN)—612-373-3366, ext. 136—(9am-5pm)—1619 Portland Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN—A twelve-month live-in Christian discipleship program treatment. Low or no cost to adults.

MAKE OLD THINGS NEW, INC.: 612-338-3664—2120 Minnehaha Ave. S, #3, Minneapolis, MN 55404—Christian discipleship sober housing.

ROCHESTER NETWORK FOR RE-ENTRY: R. Kilen at 1-507-529-5799—P.O. 9321, Rochester, MN 55904—Re-entry for prisoners, aftercare homes; ministry to families & at-risk youth; neighborhood outreach for kids.

URBAN VENTURES FAMILY CENTERS: 612-455-4637—Fathering Center - Classes are held in parenting, job skill training, child support, mentoring. Empowerment – support group, parenting classes, etc.

GOSPEL LIGHT MEN'S HOUSE: 612-871-6330—2011 Chicago Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55404—Christian housing provided by Gospel Light Baptist.

METRO HOPE CENTER: 612-721-9415—2739 Cedar Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55407—Men's discipleship program. Has a room to stay in to decide if they want New Hope's program.

INNER CHANGE FREEDOM INITIATIVE: 18-month pre-release with post-release component. Prison Fellowship men's program. Christian discipleship while inside and the goals are to know Christ, His Word, obtain a job, mentor and church. Write: 7525 - 4th Avenue, Lino Lakes, MN 55014

MIDWEST CHALLENGE: 612-825-6871—3044 Chicago Ave. S, PO Box 7067, Minneapolis, MN 55407—*Genesis House*-Christian work release; *Redemption House*-After-care w/evening classes; *Isaiah House*-Housing

SALVATION ARMY ADULT REHAB CENTER: 612-332-5855—900 N 4th St., Minneapolis, MN—6-12 month program. Residential rehab combined w/treatment & work therapy. Need valid ID. Work there 40 hrs./wk. & receive necessities; offer evening Bible study and recovery classes.

UNION GOSPEL MISSION CHRIST RECOVERY CENTER: 651-292-1721—435 University Ave. E, St. Paul, MN—General UGM not recommended. CRC offers 6-24 months Christian discipleship 12-step treatment & recovery program; help finding work.

NEW LIFE TREATMENT CENTER: 507-777-4321—Woodstock, MN—In- & Outpatient 12-step Christian program.

SERENITY VILLAGE: Contact: Jeff Hill 763-355-5421—Faith-based transitional housing community for men, providing a strong foundation for those seeking purpose in their lives. High recovery rate among participants staying free from addiction - Northwest Suburbs—www.serenityvillage.com

FREEDOM HOUSE: 651-387-8393—A 21-bed Christian housing outreach to those in recovery from chemical dependency. Housing and 3 meals a day are provided. Community pastors provide groups every day in-house. Similar low cost housing is provided for clients with FT jobs.

CHRISTIAN RESTORATION SERVICES, INC.: Contact Marcelle at 612-749-0227—7964 Brooklyn Blvd., Suite 117, Brooklyn Park, MN 55445—Fax: 612-566-2888—Men's housing; support groups & Bible studies, various locations. E-Mail: info@ChristianRestorationServices.org

FISH HOUSE: 763-552-2555—Christian Recovery Services and sober housing. Residents need to attend church and Christian 12-step meetings. The house is in Cambridge.

THE HOPE HOUSE: 952-898-1552—Sober housing in Apple Valley / Lakeville area. Rent single room. Be serious about sobriety, attend recovery groups, faith-based program

EVER-LIVING HOPE: 612-812-9775—Six-months transformational, sober housing w/ discipleship; attend church, and two onsite Bible studies. Mail app to live in Br. Park house to: MP252, 13570 Grace Dr. N, Maple Grove, MN 55311

LIFE 24/7 RECOVERY HOME: 1-715-640-1450—PO Box 338, Centuria, WI 54824—12-month discipleship program, Bible studies, NA/AA & church.

CHURCH OF ACTS WHOLE-WAY HOUSE: 651-771-5077—Christian sober house. Must attend Church of Acts and have a job to pay rent and support yourself.

FREEDOM WORKS: Post Prison Outreach Contact Ray Cole 612-750-4023 3559 Penn Ave North Minneapolis, MN 55412 . Transitional housing, employment counseling, life skills training, mentoring.

SPIRIT HOUSE: 612-991-1999—Pacific St., St. Paul, MN 55106—Team-oriented sobriety, Bible study, 2 mtgs./wk.

MISSION BIBLE TRAINING CENTER: 1-906-265-6247—Ask to talk to an overseer. Interdenominational. Call for phone interview and application. This is in Gaastra, MI.

MEN'S SUPPORT SERVICES

CELEBRATE RECOVERY GROUPS: www.celebraterecovery-sw.org

CROWN FINANCE BUDGETING: 1-800-722-1976—www.crown.org financial teaching, volunteer budget coaching

SEED OF HOPE: www.seedofhope.org—Scholarship applications for help with Christian counseling

GLORYBOUND FAMILY RESTORATION MINISTRY: 763-546-3100—2525 Nevada Ave. N, Golden Valley, MN—Ministers to families of men and women in programs to try to keep the families together. Day camp, food shelf

PARENTING WITH A PURPOSE: 763-503-2892—Teach Christ-Centered parenting in some jails and prisons. Provides support to the entire family affected by incarceration, including mentoring children, parents and help and encouragement for the caregiver.

LIGHTHOUSE: 651-483-0888—Deliverance prayer ministry

NATIVE AMERICAN SUPPORT MINISTRY: 612-831-1610—Overcomer outreach; 12-step programs; referrals and other practical helps

ON EAGLES WINGS. Native Americans to Native Americans www.oew.hutchcraft.com
A Word With You Daily Devotionals, Ministry E-News, Blog, or verse of the Day

PRISON FELLOWSHIP: 763-566-8121—P.O. Box 29697, Brooklyn Center, MN 55429—Network for life (after prison or jail) support groups for ex-inmates and family members. ANGLETREE Christmas presents and camps for children of inmates. If incarcerated, please contact with enough time ahead to make arrangements for camp or presents.

URBAN HOMEWORKS: 612-272-4177—www.urbanhomeworks.org—2015 Emerson Avenue N., Mpls., MN 55411. Dignified housing for low-income families, offering interaction with Christian ministry and landlords in Minneapolis and St.Paul.

MEC - Missionary Evangelism to Corrections: 651-408-1300—Finds a church, Bible study or support group in your area to attend after your release. Start corresponding before your release. The support can give you a positive direction.

PROMISE MINISTRIES: 952-484-0709—7425 Scot Terrace, Eden Prairie, MN 55346—The Promise is a 10-week Bible study for cell groups. Let's Stay Together marriage ministry - marriage education for couples, whether married, engaged, or cohabiting. Will also provide marriage education to singles.

GOODWILL/EASTER SEALS: 651-379-5871—553 Fairview Ave. N, St Paul, MN 55104—Provides job training and employment to people who have been incarcerated.

EX-OFFENDER EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM: 651-642-0363—St. Paul Workforce Center—540 Fairview Ave. N, Suite 100, St. Paul, MN 55104—When two-day workshop is completed, person will be enrolled in ex-offender employment program, which includes being assigned to a job counselor, employment referral, and follow-up session. A person must be work ready; i.e., have housing and transportation.

CHANGING GAITS, INC.: Teaches, guides and encourages positive attitudes, behavior modification and life skills through healing bonds with horses. Equine Assisted Addiciton Services helps individuals needing social interaction increased communication skills, therapy or addiction counseling. Works with all ages, individuals and groups. Web site—www.changinggaitsinc.com.

NATIONAL OFFICE OF POST ABORTION RECONCILIATION AND HEALING- 1-800-5WE-CARE

WOMEN'S RESOURCES

Resources where you can apply for help. Individual programs determine admittance. MEC is not able to admit you. We can verify that you came to Bible study and we will be praying for you.

TREATMENT AND DISCIPLESHIP PROGRAMS

TEEN CHALLENGE: (MN) 612-373-3366, ext. 136—1619—Portland Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55404—Twelve-month live-in Christian discipleship program treatment. Adult program separate from teens. Low or no cost to adults.

TEEN CHALLENGE INTERNATIONAL: 417-862-6969—Has numbers for other Twin Cities programs. Women with children living with them in California, call 408-272-4416. Pregnant women in Michigan, call 517-371-3128.

NAOMI FAMILY CENTER: 651-222-7962—77 E. 9th Street, St. Paul, MN—Low income housing for women and children, programming such as parenting, meals, GED, etc.

THE DWELLING PLACE: 651-776-4805—St. Paul—For women and children needing a place away from abuse. Transitional housing, support groups, and abuse education.

HEALING HOUSE: 612-721-9415, ext. 120—Minneapolis—Residential Christian ministry for women who are coming out of prostitution, prison, addictions, or chronic poverty. Has a room to stay in while evaluating if this is the right program for you. Children age 10 and under can stay with their mother.

FAITH FAMILY RECOVERY CENTER: 651-437-1628—Hastings, MN—A licensed faith-based, family-oriented outpatient chemical dependency treatment program for adult men and women.

PLACE OF HOPE: 320-203-7881—413 E. Germain, St. Cloud, MN 56304—Live-in women's discipleship program. Daytime drop-in center with phone available; pastoral counseling; recovery groups; referrals

MARANATHA: 651-464-3131—Forest Lake, MN—Has a program for those leaving prostitution, which includes financial support, housing, support, and discipleship.

BREAKING FREE: 651-645-6557—PO Box 4366, St. Paul, MN 55104—Break free of prostitution, housing, and programs.

SALVATION ARMY: 612-767- 3113—1010 Curry Ave. N, Minneapolis, MN—Housing/Multi Services/Church

NEW LIFE TREATMENT CENTER: 507-777-4321—130 Dakota St. S, Woodstock, MN 56186—12-step inpatient program, Christian counselors

PRESSING FORWARD: 952-994-9580—7540 Dupont Avenue N, Brooklyn Park, MN 55444—Transitional housing for 6 to 12 months for women who have been incarcerated. Help with employment training, spiritual guidance, and chemical dependency counseling. Children can visit twice a week and every other weekend.

INNER CHANGE FREEDOM INITIATIVE (IFI): 18-month Pre-release with post-release component. Prison Fellowship program. Christian discipleship while inside. The goals are to know Christ, His Word, obtain a job, mentor and church. Write to IFI, Attn: Susan Stacey, MCF Shakopee, 1010 W. 6th Ave., Shakopee, MN 55379

EMERGENCY SHELTERS: 612-825-0000—Tubman Family Alliance (various sites)—Alexandra House, Blaine, MN 763-780-2332—Crisis line: 763-780-2330. Casa de Esperanza, St. Paul, MN—651-646-5553—Crisis line: 651-772-1611

Sharing & Caring Hands—612-338-4640—Mpls, MN. Fridley is a twelve-step halfway house; women need to be referred by a counselor or program person.

CHRISTIAN RESTORATION SERVICES, INC.: 612-749-0227—7964 Brooklyn Blvd., Suite 117, Brooklyn Park, MN 55445

FISH HOUSE: Contact Cindy at 763-552-2555—Christian Recovery Services and Sober housing. Where residents need to attend church and Christian 12-step meetings. The house is in Elk River.

MISSION BIBLE TRAINING CENTER: 1-906-265-6247—Ask to talk to an overseer. Interdenominational. Call for phone interview and application. This is in Gaastra, MI.

SAFE HAVEN MINISTRIES—1-616-452-6664 (on-line counseling) www.safehavenministries.org—Counseling Support Groups, and Shelter for Domestic Abuse located in Grand Rapids Michigan.

WOMEN'S SUPPORT SERVICES

MEC— Missionary Evangelism to Corrections: 651-408-1300—www.mecjailministry.com—Find a church, Bible study or support group in your area to attend after your release.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUPS: www.celebraterecovery-sw.org—Recovery addiction

HIDING HURTING HEALING: 763-242-9181—www.hidinghurtinghealing.com —4430-199th Lane NW, Anoka, MN 55303—To provide a godly means for hurting women to come out of hiding, beyond hurting, into healing from a difficult relationship and any kind of abuse - past or present. Call to find locations and times.

GLORYBOUND FAMILY RESTORATION MINISTRY: 763-546-3100—Golden Valley—Ministers to families of men and women in treatment programs, and tries to keep the families together. Day camp, food shelf

ON EAGLES WINGS. Native Americans to Native Americans www.oew.hutchcraft.com
A Word With You Daily Devotionals, Ministry E-News, Blog, or verse of the Day

OVERCOMER'S OUTREACH MINISTRIES: 612-871-1208—Outreach to the Native American community, 12-step programs, referrals and other practical helps; evangelistic services in the Phillip's neighborhood

PROMISE MINISTRIES: 952-484-0709—7425 Scot Terrace, Eden Prairie, MN 55346—The Promise is a 10-week Bible study for cell groups. Let's Stay Together marriage ministry - marriage education for couples, whether married, engaged, or cohabiting. Will also provide marriage education to singles.

PARENTING WITH A PURPOSE: 763-503-2892—Teach Christ-Centered parenting in some jails and prisons. Provides support to the entire family affected by incarceration, including mentoring children, parents and help and encouragement for the caregiver.

LIGHTHOUSE: 651-483-0888—Deliverance prayer ministry

PRISON FELLOWSHIP: 763-655-8121—Network for Life (after prison or jail) support groups. For ex-inmates and family members. *ANGLTREE* Christmas presents and camps for children of inmates. If incarcerated, please contact with enough time ahead to make arrangements for camp or presents

URBAN HOMEWORKS: 612-272-4177—www.urbanhomeworks.org—2015 Emerson Avenue N., Mpls., MN 55411. Dignified housing for low-income families, offering interaction with Christian ministry and landlords in Minneapolis and Saint Paul.

EX-OFFENDER EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM: 651-642-0363—St. Paul Force Center. 540 Fairview Ave. N, Suite 100, St. Paul, MN 55104—When two-day workshop is completed, person will be enrolled in ex-offender employment program, which includes being assigned to a job counselor, employment referral, and follow-up sessions. Must be work ready; i.e., have housing and transportation.

CHANGING GAITS, INC: Teaches, guides and encourages positive attitudes, behavior modification and life skills through healing bonds with horses. Equine Assisted Addiction Services helps individuals needing social interaction increased communication skills, therapy or addiction counseling. Works with all ages, individuals and groups. Web site—www.changinggaitsinc.com.

COVER GIRLS IN THE CHURCH: 952-239-7939—P.O. Box 2856, Minneapolis MN 55402 A dynamic and interactive community of love encouraging you to heal what you've been hiding.

Pregnancy and Sexual Counseling Help:

Option Line: <http://www.optionline.org/get-help/> or call 1-800-395-4357 for 24 hour free & confidential information about pregnancy, abortion, morning after pill, & STD's. Provides information on resources near you.

New Life Family Services and First Care Pregnancy Center: Free, confidential, Pregnancy Testing, Options Counseling, Limited Ultrasounds, Men's Services, Parenting Education, Adoption Services & Support Groups. Anoka: 763-323-3435, Richfield: 612-866-7643, University of Minnesota: 612-623-8378, St. Paul: 651-730-4342, Rochester: 507-282-3377.

Total LifeCare Centers: 25 locations in Minnesota. Call 888-652-1140 for locations near you. Free & confidential information. www.totallifecare.org.

ROBBINSDALE WOMEN'S CENTER: 763-531-9554—Free pregnancy test, ultrasounds, temporary shelter, 24-hour help-line service. Free education about abortion methods, risks, and complications.

New Life Partners: <http://www.newlifepartners.org/> Christian online resource & support group for women whose lives have been impacted by husbands or loved ones caught in the web of pornography and/or sexual addiction. Sharing, caring, love, hope, and prayer to help you walk out the Lord's plan for your life.

Abortion Recovery

EVERLASTING LIGHT: 763-560-8383—PO Box 29193, Brooklyn Center, MN 55429—Comprehensive family ministry featuring abortion and miscarriage recovery, and strengthening marriages.

SILENT NO MORE: 763-536-8800—P.O. Box 68125 Minneapolis, MN 55418

HEARTBEAT INTERNATIONAL/CARENET -1-800-395-HELP (1-800-395-4357) Toll-free 24 hrs./7 days a week

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREATS-1-877-HOPE-4ME www.RachelsVineyard.org 1-877-467-3463

NATIONAL OFFICE OF POST ABORTION RECONCILIATION AND HEALING- 1-800-5WE-CARE

AMERICAN VICTIMS OF ABORTION- 1-202-626-8800 ext. 132

RAMAH INTERNATIONAL—476-445-6070 www.RamahInternational.org

TEEN RESOURCES

This is a list of possible resources where you can apply for help. The jail staff, courts and individual programs determine admittance. MEC is not able to admit you. We will be praying for you.

TREATMENT AND DISCIPLESHIP PROGRAMS

TEEN CHALLENGE: (MN) 612-373-3366, ext. 136—1619 Portland Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55404—Twelve-month live-in Christian discipleship program treatment. Apply biblical principles to establish chemical-free lifestyle, build supportive relationships and grow in personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Know the Truth website: www.knowthetruth.mntc.org

TEEN CHALLENGE INTERNATIONAL: 417-862-6969—Has numbers for other Twin Cities programs. Women with children living with them in California, call 408-272-4416. Pregnant women in Michigan, call 517-371-3128.

ARISE MINISTRIES, INC.: 651-332-1042—Roger Koskinen—POB 9130, St. Paul, MN 55109—Chaplaincy ministry to at-risk teens. Build relationships with teens that show the love and care of Christ.

HOUSE OF HOPE: 1-800-781-6113—1-507-625-4373—1429 - 3rd Ave., Marshall, MN 56002-0291—Christian drug and alcohol treatment program for 12 to 17-year-old girls.

CHANGING GAITS: 1-320-679-4468—27274 Monument Road, Brook Park, MN 55007—Faith-based non-profit organization dedicated to teaching, guiding and encouraging positive attitudes and behaviors by using the powerful, therapeutic approach to substance abuse through the healing bond with horses.

NAOMI FAMILY CENTER: 651-222-7962—77 - 9th Street, St. Paul, MN—Low-income housing for women and children, programming such as parenting, meals, GED, etc.

THE DWELLING PLACE: 651-776-4805—St. Paul—For women and children needing a place away from abuse. Transitional housing, support groups, and abuse education.

HEALING HOUSE: 612-721-9415, ext. 120—2739 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55407—Residential Christian ministry for women who are coming out of prostitution, prison, addictions, or chronic poverty. Has a room to stay in while evaluating if this is the right program for you. Children age 10 and under can stay with their mother.

MARANATHA: 651-464-3131—24799 Forest Blvd., Forest Lake, MN 55025—Has a program for those leaving prostitution, which includes financial support, housing, support, and discipleship.

BREAKING FREE: 651-645-6557—PO Box 4366, 770 University Ave. W, St. Paul, MN 55104—Break free of prostitution / sex trafficking, addictions, and abuse. Housing and programs.

SALVATION ARMY: 612-767- 3113—1010 Curry Ave. N, Minneapolis, MN—Housing/Multi Services/Church

NEW LIFE TREATMENT CENTER: 507-777-4325—130 Dakota St. N, Woodstock, MN 56186—12-step, 30-day inpatient program, Christian counselors

EMERGENCY SHELTERS: 612-825-0000—Tubman Family Alliance (various sites)—Alexandra House, Blaine, MN 763-780-2332—Crisis line: 763-780-2330. Casa de Esperanza, St. Paul, MN—651-646-5553—Crisis line: 651-772-1611

MISSION TEENS: Mission Teens, Inc. is a non-profit, non-denominational organization dedicated to helping people with life-controlling problems who are desperate to change. Reverend Jim Bracken

MISSION BIBLE TRAINING CENTER: 1-906-265-6247—POB 242 or 121 Gaastra, MI 49927—Alternative to treatment in Michigan. Reverend Jim Bracken

MERCY MINISTRIES—615-831-6987 - P.O. Box 111060 Nashville TN 37222 — www.mercyministries.com Nashville TN, Monroe LA, St. Louis MO, Sacramento CA — Locations Underway- — Charlotte NC, Destin FL, Houston TX. — Homes for hurting young girls ages 13-28. Applications on website. May apply. Legal and court issues should be resolved before admittance.

Not a program but website resource for Native Americans. They do a lot of ministry on reservations

ON EAGLES WINGS. Native Americans to Native Americans www.oew.hutchcraft.com

A Word With You Daily Devotionals, Ministry E-News, Blog, or verse of the Day

OVERCOMER'S OUTREACH MINISTRIES: 612-871-1208—Outreach to the Native American community, 12-step programs, referrals and other practical helps; evangelistic services in the Phillip's neighborhood

HOUSE OF HOPE PROGRAMS

These are effective Christian programs in homes for teens that involve the family.
There may be homes in the area near the address listed

House of Hope Minnesota
P.O. Box 26 Marshall, MN 56258
507-537-4525 www.houseofhopeminnesota.org
Works with: Girls 12-17

House of Hope Orlando
P.O. Box 560484 Orlando, FL 32856
407-843-8686 www.houseofhopeorlando.com
Works with Girls/Boys 13-17

House of Hope Central Ohio
P.O. Box 77 Crooksville, OH 43731
740-982-2102 www.houseofhopecoho.com
Works with: Boys & Girls 13-17

House of Hope Foothills
P.O. Box 1292 Hickory, NC 28603
828-256-6028
Works with: Boys 13-18

House of Hope Foothills
Statesville, NC
Niewulis9@aol.com
Works with: Girls 13-17

House of Hope Kansas City
P.O. Box 6011 Leawood, KS 66206
913-262-8885 www.houseofhopekc.org
Works with: Girls 12-17

House of Hope Northwest Michigan
P.O. Box 5014 Traverse City, MI 49696
231-946-5350 www.houseofhopetc.com
Works with: Girls & Boys 12-17

House of Hope Portland
P.O. Box 3057 Oregon City, OR 97045
503-805-9212 www.houseofhope-portland.org
Works with: Girls 13-17

House of Hope Susquehanna Valley
P.O. Box 429 Danville, PA 17821
570-275-2280 www.svhoh.org
Works with: Girls 13-17

House of Hope Tampa Bay
13018 Gunn Highway Odessa, FL 33556
813-920-3800 www.houseofhopetampabay.org
Works with: Boys 13-17

Youth Abstinence Programs

NEW LIFE FAMILY SERVICES: 612-730-4342—2105 Old Hudson Rd, #31, St. Paul, MN 55119—Christian social service agency: adoption, abstinence resource, infant foster care, pregnancy care, support homes and groups. Has clothing for child. Can go once per month and formula and diapers on emergency basis.

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY: <http://www.troubledwith.com/> These resources are available:

- *Take Twelve* booklet; Sex Talk Starters, The popular article, "*A Promise With a Ring to It*," by author Richard Durfield, where he tells how he gave his son a "key talk"; a Zogby Poll showing that parents support abstinence-based sex ed; CitizenLink - a place to get fast facts about teen sexuality and abstinence; the Teen Sexuality collection featuring materials telling parents why they are vital to their child's ability to say no to sexual activity; the Sex Education Hot Topic collection includes sex education resources and tips for evaluating a school district's Sex Ed program.
- Materials in the online Resource Center: *How to Teach Your Child About Sex* - a Focus on the Family broadcast; *How & When to Tell Your Kids About Sex*; *Preparing for Adolescence*; *Pure Excitement "A Message to Teens About Sex"* Focus on the Family broadcast

www.abstinence.net

www.chastitycall.org

www.sexrespect.com

www.abstinenceonly.com

<http://members.aol.com/sexualabstinence>

www.premaritalsex.info

www.choosingthebest.org

www.safeinc.org

Abortion Recovery

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY: *Wonderfully Made*; Making Informed Decisions About Abortion (Teen Kit); *No One Told Me I Could Cry: A Teen's Guide to Hope*; *The Truth Comes Out* - CD; Teen Abortion Hot Topics collection includes articles about abortion risks and the status of abortion in our country. 1-800-232-6459

www.heartlink.org - To find pregnancy resources in your area

EVERLASTING LIGHT: 763-560-8383—PO Box 29193, Brooklyn Center, MN 55429—Comprehensive family ministry featuring abortion and miscarriage recovery, and strengthening marriages.

SILENT NO MORE: 763-536-8800—P.O. Box 68125 Minneapolis, MN 55418

HEARTBEAT INTERNATIONAL/CARENET -1-800-395-HELP (1-800-395-4357) Toll-free 24 /7

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREATS-1-877-HOPE-4ME www.RachelsVineyard.org 1-877-467-3463

NATIONAL OFFICE OF POST ABORTION RECONCILIATION AND HEALING- 1-800-5WE-CARE

AMERICAN VICTIMS OF ABORTION- 1-202-626-8800 ext. 132

RAMAH INTERNATIONAL— 476-445-6070 www.RamahInternational.org

Related Resources

The Heart of the Matter: Roots and Causes of Female Homosexuality - booklet

www.teensource.org

www.wr.org/project516

www.buzzboxx.com

www.EveryStudent.com

www.journeyworks.com

www.1millionpapers.com

www.gocampus.org

www.ywwf.org

CHRISTIAN COUNSELING SERVICES

CHURCH OF THE OPEN DOOR: Lists several Christian counselors on their web site—www.thedoor.org—(Ministries-Adult Life-Care-Resources for Life PDF)

SET FREE RECOVERY SERVICE: 651-253-6818—Counseling for addictions; seminars

BACHMAN AND ASSOCIATES: Family counselors who treat sexual addiction, and believe in providing all clients with quality Christian counseling in a sensitive, loving environment, and in treating all clients with the utmost professionalism, dignity, and care. 8669 Eagle Point Blvd, Lake Elmo, MN 55042 - 651-379-0444 OR 1500 McAndrews Road W., Suite 201, Burnsville, MN 55337 - 952-892-8495.

FAMILY BAPTIST CHURCH: 612-522-3629—2201 Girard Ave. N, Minneapolis, MN—Biblical counseling for couples, by appointment.

HAVEN CENTER: 651-277-4283—5833 Pecan St., North Branch, MN 55056 —www.mnhavencenter.org

LIGHTHOUSE FAMILY SERVICE: Beacon Therapy Associates. 763-458-7726—Lighthouse Family Services, LLC. provides counseling and therapy services for individuals, couples, and families. 111441 Zealand Av. N., Champlin, MN 55316

SEED OF HOPE: www.seedofhope.org—Scholarship applications for help with Christian counseling

HOPE RECOVERY CLINIC: Licensed psychologist specializing in individual, marriage, family and recovery counseling; seminars. 8525 Edinbrook Crossing, Suite 3, Brooklyn Park, MN 55443—763-525-9900.

Sexual Purity Help

COVENANT EYES: Accountability software monitors Internet use and emails reports to people you select. Our Filter Service blocks objectionable websites from your computer. <http://www.covenanteyes.com/>

FAITHFUL AND TRUE MINISTRIES: Christian recovery ministry for individuals & couples who struggle with sexual addiction. <http://www.faithfulandtrueministries.com/>

SAFE EYES: Software that blocks objectionable content. <http://www.internetsafety.com/safe-eyes-parental-control-software>

TRIPLE X CHURCH: Provides free accountability and filtering software for those struggling with pornography addictions. (X3 Watch, Safe Eyes and X3Pure) <http://x3watch.com/>

Websites for Men and Women: (For a bibliography of books, contact us @ mec@usfamily.net)

<http://www.no-porn.com/>

<http://www.pureintimacy.org/>

<http://www.settingcaptivesfree.com/>

<http://www.porn-free.org/>

<http://www.victimsofpornography.org/>

<http://www.exodusinternational.org/>

<http://www.outpostministries.org/home.htm>

<http://www.outpostministries.org/video.htm>

<http://www.manontheroad.org/>

www.covenanteyes.com.

<http://www.sexaddict.com/>

<http://www.focusonthefamily.com/>

MARRIAGE HELP:

<http://www.purelifeministries.org/>

<http://www.marriagebuilders.com>

<http://www.family.org>

WORK RESOURCES

REBUILD RESOURCES: 651-643-7055—602 Prior Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104—Adults in recovery find employment.

Internet Resources for Job Hunting

Determine your skills and get a focus:

www.jobhuntersbible.com	research basic job hunting strategies
www.onetcenter.org	source of occupational information
www.mncis.intocareers.org	MN Career information System
www.doleta.gov/jobseekers	Info for job loss, training, and more
www.iseek.org	localized job seeking and training
www.mnwfc.org/lostyourjob.htm	Just lost your job?
Www.mnwfc.org/wfc/resources/intro.htm	

Do Labor Market Research

Www.acinet.org	locate key contacts
Www.deed.state.mn.us	enter your resume and search jobs
Www.indeed.com	find jobs and related careers
Www.clusty.com	more jobs and related info
Www.job-hunt.org	more jobs and related infor

Create a Resume:

Www.iseek.org	resume, job hunt, & interview info
Www.monster.com	resume, job hunt, & interview info
Www.deed.state.mn.us	free workshops

Research Companies:

Www.google.com	see what you can learn about a company
Www.hoovers.com	same as above, use free tools
Www.morningstar.com	same as above, use free tools
Www.sharebuilder.com	same as above, use free tools

Other:

Www.google.com	type in a question and find info
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Search City websites by city name

Job Search: <http://www.jobconnectmn.com/> **Many resources on this site**

http://www.hometownlocator.com/	
Www.ihirejobnetwork.com	post your resume and find jobs nationwide
Www.oodle.com/job/	classified job listings nationally
Www.deed.state.mn.us	Minnesota Works.net/Job Bank
Www.ajb.dni.us	America's Job Bank (Nationwide)
Www.doer.state.me.us	State of Minnesota Jobs
Usajobs.opm.gov	United States Federal Government Jobs
Www.careerbuilder.com	Career Builder
Www.hotjobs.com	Hot Jobs
Www.monster.com	Monster Jobs, a national job listing
Iseekolutions.org/press/career_links.htm	General Links to Job Sites
Www.mnwfc.org/events/index.htm	Job Fairs
Www.mncn.org/jobs	Nonprofit Job Board

Budget Help

[Crown Financial Ministries](#). They can be contacted for a local counseling referral by calling 1/800/722-1976. If they're unable to refer you to a certified counselor within 100 miles of your home, you'll be contacted by someone within their organization and given an opportunity to receive free counseling over the telephone.

[Dave Ramsey Ministry](#) type your zip code into www.daveramsey.com to find Financial Peace classes near you.

WRITTEN RESOURCES

CORRESPONDENCE BIBLE COURSES

WINGS—612-866-0462, ext.130—If no answer, leave message. FREE

EMMAUS CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS

1-888-338-7809—www.ecsministries.org

P.O. Box 1028, Dubuque, Iowa 52004-1028

Provide materials and Bible studies specifically designed for inmates.

PRISON FELLOWSHIP MAGAZINES

If going to prison, *Inside Journal* is a Christian magazine for prisoners the facility can order for you, if they will.

Jubilee is Prison Fellowship's regular magazine. 1-877-478-0100—P.O.B. 17500, Washington, DC 20041

Look for Christian materials donated in the jail libraries. In some of the jails you can put in a kite asking for Christian books, Bibles and Christian videos to watch.

The following are magazines that will help you grow in your Christian faith. If you can send a donation, please do so. If you cannot afford it, they will send it to you free. Although you cannot order them individually while on the inside, many institutions will receive them and you can order them for yourself after release.

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

800 A-FAMILY (800-232-6459)—Web address www.family.org

P.O. Box 35500, Colorado Springs, CO 80935-3550

Adult, Teens – *Breakaway* for males, *Brio* for females, *Clubhouse Jr.* and *Clubhouse* for Children.

DECISION MAGAZINE (Billy Graham) 1-877-247-2426

RBC- RADIO BROADCAST MINISTRIES

Daily Bread magazines and others—www.rbc.net

P.O. Box 2222, Grand Rapids, MI 49501-2222

Free Christian courses <http://christiancourses.com/>

Websites to check for recovery and support group and Bible studies

www.biblestudy.com to find a Bible study

www.lifeway.com for Bible resources

www.metrohope.org for recovery resources support groups and counseling

www.worship.net online streaming channels

www.olivebranchoutreach.com website for help with eating disorders

www.helpformylife.org view videos addressing the false intimacy of pornography, including a roundtable discussion

www.WhoIamInChrist.net/freedownloads.html

CHRISTIAN RADIO STATIONS

Northwestern College Radio KTIS-AM 900 AM-& 98.5 FM located in Minneapolis/St. Paul

HopeRiverRadio.FM Hope 0 FM-located in Rochester, MN ; Christian Radio

Air 1 Radio 89.5 FM-located in St. Cloud; contemporary christian music

KADU 90.1 FM-located in Hibbing; plays rock, modern rock, and has a Real Audio live feed!

spirit 92.9 fm 92.9 FM-located in St.Cloud; A variety of christian music

93.3 FM-located in Twin Cities; Christian

Z100 WZPJ 100.1 FM-located in Pequot Lakes

The Refuge—91.5 or 91.9 Twin Cities see website for other locations—www.therefuge.fm

Celebrate Recovery & Recovery Meetings Minnesota pg1

Alexandria-Alexandria Covenant
4005 Dakota Street, Alexandria, MN
56308
320-763-5659 Monday 6:30 pm

Austin-Cornerstone Church
1802 2nd Ave SW
Austin, MN 55912
507-433-7008 Fridays 7:00pm

Blaine
Sonlight Church of the Nazarene
3860 Flowerfield Road
Blaine, MN 55014
(763) 784-1607 Tuesday 6:30pm

Brooklyn Park
Brooklyn Park Evangelical Free
7849 West Broadway
Brooklyn Park, MN 55445
763-753-2123 Tuesday 6:00pm

Grace Fellowship Church
8601 101st Ave. N
Brooklyn Park, MN 55445
763-425-2246 Tuesdays 7:00pm
Coon Rapids-Word of Life
10730 University Ave. NW
Coon Rapids, MN 55448
763-772-7572 Friday 6:30pm

Detroit Lakes-The Refuge
921 8th St. SE
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
(218) 532-2873, 218-847-1982
Thursday 6:45pm

Duluth-Lakeview Covenant & Anchor
Pt. Comm. Church
1101 Jean Duluth Rd.
Duluth, MN 55804
218-728-5435, 218-525-6625 Thursday
6:15pm

Lincoln Park Community Church
2202 W 3rd St, Duluth, MN 55806
(218) 722-4141 Tuesday 6:00pm

The River Church
1902 E. 4th St., Duluth, MN 55803
218-728-6471 Monday 6:15pm

Eagan-Peace Church
2180 Glory Dr., Eagan, MN 55122
651-686-0005 Friday 6pm

Fergus Falls
First Church of the Nazarene
1319 N. Cleveland
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
218-205-7848 Thursday 7pm

Ham Lake-Horizons Community
1503 157th Ave., Ham Lake, MN
55304
763-413-7210 Thursdays 7:00pm

Oak Haven Church
1555 NE Constance Blvd, Ham
Lake, MN 55304
(612) 280-9760 Monday 7pm

Hastings-The Harbor Church
11125 West Point Douglas Rd,
Hastings, MN 55033
(651) 437-9770 Friday 6pm

Hibbing-Open Door Church
12025 Corey Tracts Road,
Hibbing, MN 55746
218-262-1796 Friday 6:15pm

Howard Lake
Howard Lake Christian Church
800 5th Ave.
Howard Lake, MN 55349
763-238-0071 Thursday 7:00pm

International Falls
Evangelical Covenant Church
1631 1st Ave East
International Falls, MN 56649
218-283-3365 Monday 7pm

Inver Grove Heights-Inverhills
8265 Babcock Trail East
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077
651-451-3796 Thursday 5:30pm

River Heights Vineyard Church
6070 Cahill Avenue East
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076
651-457-7644 Tuesday 6:00 pm

Kasson-Community Celebration
27401 County Rd 34
Kasson, MN 55944
(507) 269-8360 Monday 6:00pm

Lakeville-Celebration Church
16655 Kenyon Avenue, Lakeville, MN
55044
612-207-6656 Sundays 6:00pm

Hosanna Church
9600 163rd Street West, Lakeville, MN
55044
952-898-9287 Tuesdays 5:15pm

Lancaster
Lancaster Covenant Church
108 3rd. St. E., Lancaster, MN 56735
218-762-7901 Thursday 7:00pm

Mankato
Evangelical Free Church
709 N. Riverfront Drive
Mankato, MN 56001
507-345-7451 Friday 7:00pm

Maple Grove-Lord of Life Lutheran
Church
7401 City Road 101, Maple Grove, MN
55311
763-420-5015 Tuesdays 6:00pm

Minneapolis
Christ Church International
3015 13th Avenue S.
Minneapolis, MN 55407
952-261-8478 Tuesdays 7:00pm

El-Bethel Baptist Church
3949 4th Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55409
(763) 757-5108 Friday 5:30pm

Monticello-Monticello Covenant
858 Hwy 25 NE
Monticello, MN 55362
(763) 229-5655 Tuesday 7pm

Moose Lake-Evangelical Covenant
700 5th Street, Moose Lake, MN 66707
218-206-4376 Tuesday 6:30pm

Celebrate Recovery & Recovery Meetings Minnesota pg2

New Hope-New Hope Church
4225 Gettysburg Ave. N., New
Hope, MN 55428
763- 971-5118 Tuesdays April -
Aug 6:30pm Sept - March 6:00pm

St Louis Park
St. Louis Park Evangelical Free
6805 Minnetonka Blvd
St Louis Park, MN 55426
612-655-9679 Thursday 6:30 pm

Worthington-First Baptist Church
1000 Linda Lane
Worthington, MN 56187
507-376-9232 Mondays 7:00pm

Perham-Northwoods Assembly
945 West Main
Perham, MN 56573
218-298-1555 Tuesday 6:30pm

St Paul-E. Immanuel Lutheran
1173 Payne Ave
St Paul, MN 55130
651-587-5228 Tuesday 6:30pm

Pine River-Riverview Church
310 Norway Ave
Pine River, MN 56474
(218) 587-2021 Friday 7pm

Woodland Hills Church
1740 Van Dyke St.
St. Paul, MN 55109
651-487-0001 Thursday 6:00pm

Plymouth-Plymouth Covenant
4300 Vicksburg Lane
Plymouth, MN 55446
612-251-3612 Monday 7pm

St Paul Park-Household of Faith
1090 Chicago Ave
St Paul Park, MN 55071
(612) 267-2406 Thursday 7:00pm

Prior Lake-Friendship Church 17741
Fairlawn Avenue
Prior Lake, MN 55372
952-447-0546 Fridays 6:30pm

Virginia-Good Shepherd Lutheran
230 3rd St South
Virginia, MN 55792
218-208-7263 Tuesday 6 pm

Ramsey-Lord of Life
14501 Northern Blvd. NW
Ramsey, MN 55303
763-433-0550 Tuesday 6:15pm

Wadena-Wadena Evangelical
419 2nd St. NE
Wadena, MN 56482
218-631-1928 Monday 6:00pm

Rochester-Autumn Ridge Church
3611 Salem Road SW
Rochester, MN 55902
(507) 288-8880 Friday 7pm

Willmar-Willmar E Free
135 19th Ave. SW
Willmar, MN 56201
320-235-4317 Thursdays 5:45pm

Rochester Assembly of God
4240 18th Avenue NW
Rochester, MN 55904
651-225-0923 Saturday 6pm

Willmar Evangelical Free Church
1305 19th Ave. SW
Willmar, MN 56201
320-235-4317 Thursdays 5:45pm

Sebeka-Sebeka United Methodist
PO Box 188, Sebeka, MN 56477
(218) 472-3547 Monday 7pm

Winona-Pleasant Valley Church
1363 Homer Road
Winona, MN 55987
(507) 452-5518 Friday 7pm

Spring Lake Park
Immanuel Christian Center
7777 University Ave NE, Spring
Lake Park MN, 55432.
763-784-7777 Tuesday: 6:00pm

Woodbury-Woodbury Lutheran
7380 Afton Road
Woodbury, MN 55125
(651) 735-7725 Thursday 6:30pm

ROLE DELINIATION OF MEC & JAIL STAFF

When you become a volunteer with MEC, you become a dual volunteer: one for MEC and one for the jail, itself. While these work together, they provide different services to help you begin volunteering smoothly.

Missionary Evangelism to Corrections is a non-profit organization that contracts with jails to provide volunteers for Church services, Bible studies, individual spiritual counseling, special events, and Victory Over Addiction recovery programming.

The private or county jail has other programming, such as GED or other schooling, gym or exercise time, Alcoholics Anonymous and other programs. This listing will help you see the roles of each.

The jails will provide you with the following services:

- Background checks
- Orientation to jail, which includes rules, such as what you are allowed to bring in with you
- Program rooms and times - these are often decided together between MEC and the program staff at the jail
- Many jails have program directors that work with volunteers for all the programming

MEC will provide these services for you:

- Interview
- Assessment
- Placement
- Training
- Substitution and Cancellation Policy - This document lists the names and phone numbers of MEC volunteers who can substitute for each other. This policy insures that we do not need to cancel services when people are sick or on vacation. It helps provide consistency and trust with inmates and jail staff. It is also important to remind volunteers to communicate and pray for each other.
- Ongoing support – Contact our office or email us with any questions that you have. All groups should submit a report every month that includes: Turnout, topics covered, inmate responses, prayer requests, and praise reports for both inmates and volunteers.
- Liaison with jail staff - First we determine schedules in conjunction with program directors in relation to all jail programming. We are also able to talk with program directors regarding small issues with the guards or with our volunteers concerning inmate complaints or misunderstandings that could otherwise result in these becoming discipline issues.
- Newsletter
- Intercession letter
- Fall Banquet - Here we express appreciation for our volunteers and supporters, provide information to those interested in jail ministry with speakers and testimonies to glorify God and His work through MEC
- Spring Breakfast and Training - Each year we have done training for volunteers and this has evolved into the Kingdom Builder's Conference, which provides teaching and networking opportunities
- Occasional special events in jail, musical concerts and testimonies, collage
- Ministry student's internships
- Bibles for inmates
- Resources for volunteers and inmates.
- CCLI (Copyright license for many worship music songs to be used for MEC events)
- Speakers - MEC staff or volunteers are available to come to churches to speak about jail ministry.

Examples of Bible Studies

There are four examples of Bible Studies in this training packet. Many of our volunteers prefer to put together their own studies, or use materials they are familiar with.

In each MEC Bible Study we would like you to include an explanation of what Christ has done on the cross for us providing salvation, and the power to live a renewed life in Him. Many inmates have never heard the gospel, and some have prayed a prayer for salvation but never grown in their faith.

The last few pages of the training packet cover topics which are helpful to teach on that many inmates deal with. Our website www.mecjailministry.com has Bible studies on 12 topics for the Victory Over Addictions curriculum, and 12 further studies on those topics. The video which can be used to show before these studies has teaching segments, interviews with people who have done well in their recovery, and a section featuring Slick –the voice of addiction.

Here are explanations of how we have taught the examples of the studies included in this packet.

Prayer

When using this handout, I teach on the Lord's prayer in Matthew 6, generating discussion of how this prayer can impact our lives. We discuss the attitude Christ would like us to approach God with, and how He knows our needs. Pointing out that we are not alone (Our Father), the differences between our heavenly Father and our earthly fathers, mentioning that we need to see the differences clearly, as we often get our concept of God from the way we were treated by parents. I define holy and what that calls for from us, talk about the kingdom of God, and what we can do to bring it to earth, Him knowing our daily needs, forgiveness, temptation and deliverance.

I encourage them to read John 17 and explain the first and last prayers that Christ prayed. I give them this handout and sometimes mention the acronym ACTS: Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication.

Always, emphasizing that these are tools, and that prayer is conversation between God and us, that we should pour out our hearts to Him and also take time to listen.

Wisdom

These two pages are taken from Proverbs. First, I ask them to write down the main things they would like in life, or what they would like people to remember about them.

The first side of the page is characteristics listed about wisdom. After they have listed what they would like I have them go through the first page and find the things they listed. They are almost always on this page. Then I explain that these are characteristics that are listed in Proverbs. When you turn the page over, you see the actions that are listed, in that chapter of Proverbs, which are the ways to obtain the character qualities which were listed in the first page. This can be done with any chapter in Proverbs, and I encourage them to go back to their units and go through Proverbs, chapter by chapter, in this way. Reading a Psalm and a Proverb each day helps in identifying feelings and gaining insight.

BIBLE STUDY ON WISDOM—continued

1. List three things you want most in life.
2. What do you most want people to say about you now and after you die?
3. Look at the sheet on the benefits of wisdom from the first chapter of Proverbs.
4. Looking at Proverbs, list the ways that you obtain wisdom.
5. Look over the same chapter. List the actions we should take to obtain this wisdom.

Overview of Scripture

Having a base of information to hang other information on is important to learning. Over and over again, I hear Thank You from inmates as I give them an overview of Scripture. We identify with God calling us and being able to follow for awhile and then falling. This explanation of the Old Testament shows us our need for a Savior. Reading about Christ in the Gospels enables us to see God's love, and history is also verified by these four accounts. Acts demonstrates the part of God on earth now. When Jesus went to heaven, He did not leave us alone. Rather, He sent the Holy Spirit. The books following are letters that the early Christians wrote to each other for encouragement. There was a lot of persecution against them and letters were used to strengthen their faith. Reading these bring encouragement and show how to live right and with God's power. Revelation is about the end times. It includes warnings about hard times and promises of heaven.

Spiritual Development Sheet

This form can be especially helpful for anyone who wants assistance in keeping on track with ways to get closer to God. It was developed to assist with the -What next? and -How do I stay with this? Questions. It can be printed two-sided with the John 3 section and gospel on one side and the questions on the other side. It is applicable to anyone, anywhere in his or her spiritual growth. It helps people focus and keep track of the spiritual growth. It can be used each day to focus on what God is teaching us and can be extremely helpful as a tool for resisting during times of temptation.

Each of these studies are formatted so that you can print them out, to be on one piece of paper, using both sides.

God Bless you in your teaching of His Word.

Karen Selby

PRAYER

The first recorded prayer that Jesus prayed was the Lord's prayer in Matthew 6 & Luke 11. The last recorded prayer He prayed was in John 17, when He prayed for the disciples and for us. Study these and let them help you talk with Father.

Here is an acronym that the Lord gave me when preparing for a National Day of Prayer.

Praise Him for who He is, and what He does. *Experiencing God* by Henry Blackabee lists two full pages of biblical names for God. Concentrating on who He is raises our minds and hearts to a spiritual place, connects us with Him and gives God a little bit of the glory He deserves. Here are just a few gems:

Our Redeemer, Savior, King of Kings, Lord of Lords, Provider, Prince of Peace, Immanuel – God with Us. Holy One, Glorious One, Alpha and Omega, Bridegroom, One Who Sees. KING OF KINGS, LORD OF LORDS, Word of God. *Luke 24:47...Repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.*

Requests. Tell Him everything that is on your mind and heart,. Talk to him with confidence and pray for the country and spiritual leaders, those who are struggling and in need for family and friends, enemies, whatever He lays on your heart.

Philippians. 4:6 — Be anxious for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Altar & Atonement. Lay it on the altar; He is able to handle it. He paid the price for it, and the price He paid was good. He lived as we did, experiencing every pain and temptation: food, control – to tempt God and worship other gods, as we do. Still, He did not fall, so His atonement counts. He provided the forgiveness through paying the price in His death, the power to live for Him through His resurrection and the sealing of it through the Holy Spirit.

Romans 5:11 — And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

Yield it to Him. Yea! Rejoice in all things that He is on your side and has your best in mind.

Romans 6:16 — Don't you know that you should yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

Enter & Enjoy His presence and His rest.

Romans 8:28 — He works all things together for good to those who love Him and are called according to His purpose.

Rest & Rejoice. *Hebrews 4:10 — for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from His.*

1 Peter 1:8 — Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory.

Prayer

Read and discuss Matthew 6 — The Lord's first prayer

1. What are the attitudes we need to come to the Lord with when we pray?
2. What does the word "Our" tell you?
3. What does holy or hallowed mean?
4. Think about what a name means. In the Hebrew culture a name meant part of the person's character.
5. What are some of the names of God? What meaning do they have?
6. How does your earthly Dad compare to your heavenly Father?
7. What is God's Kingdom?
8. What are some of the ways the Lord provides our daily bread?
9. How would it impact your life to make every choice in such a way it would bring God's Kingdom here to us.
10. Define and Discuss forgiveness.
11. How does seeing that God forgives us, give us permission to forgive ourselves?
12. Why can we forgive others? (Because He forgives us and the Holy Spirit enables us to do the same.)

Read and discuss John 17

1. This is the Lord's last prayer on earth. Talk about the significance of that.
2. Who is Jesus praying for?
3. What is He praying for?
4. What does it mean for Jesus to be in the Father and the Father to be in Jesus?
5. How can we be in (abide in) Jesus and the Father?
6. How is the world going to believe in God?
7. How can we see God's glory on earth?
8. Learning and thinking about the glory of God in heaven can help us in our spiritual walk. What steps can you take to do so?
9. Why does Jesus call God, Righteous Father?
10. What is God's role and what is our attitude and actions for righteousness? Accept what He has done for you and participate in the Good News and life He provides.

These acronyms can help you in your prayer life. The most important thing is to talk to God and pour out your heart to Him and to listen for His answers in your mind and heart and by reading His word.

PRAYER

Praise

Requests

Altar and Atonement

Yield

Enter and Enjoy His presence

Rest in Him and Rejoice

ACTS

Adoration

Confession

Thanksgiving

Supplication

PUSH

Pray

Until

Something

Happens

Benefits of Wisdom — Proverbs 1

Know more

Be better able to give and receive

Make better judgments, Be right more often

Be able to make fair decisions - Be equitable—Agree with what is right, equal, straight and sweet

Have more style, Want to keep the law, Understand justice

Understand simple and more complicated issues, be able to sort things out

Be just- know and do what is right and gain more

Come up with the right judgment; i.e., verdict, action, principle, and style.

Hear what is right and be able to do it

Find people who can help you and you can talk with about important concerns (Wise counsel)

Better understand riddles and deep or tricky sayings

Not feel so hard or critical (scornful)

Understand and respect good instruction and the people who give it to you

Have a better relationship with your parents and others who can help you

Be able to resist temptation (especially stealing and hurting others)

Be better able to see the end of a matter, see where activities and attitudes will lead you

Not interpret situations defensively and put others down (scoff or scorn)

Take constructive correction well

Be able to learn easier

Not be full of yourself (conceited)

Be motivated, care about life, not complacent

How to Obtain Wisdom

Looking in the corresponding chapters, you will find these instructions on how to obtain wisdom:

Chapter 1

Receive instruction. When someone says something to do or correct, don't immediately come up with reasons why they could be wrong or you should not have to do it. See if what they say agrees with God's Word and will help you.

To the young man: If you are young or young at heart, acknowledge it, it makes learning easier. Don't let people despise your youth, but make sure you are honoring God in it.

Hear and learn, listen for the good things in life (don't listen to the bad).

Music is one of the things you listen to – make sure it is godly music.

What instruction you hear, listen well; not in one ear and out the other. Compare what you hear to what God's Word says. Attain wise counsel.

Actively ask those who will give you good advice. If people are too busy, ask again and let them know you value their counsel.

To understand a proverb, simile, maxim, adage, or allegory –compare and figure out similarities.

Proverbs make you wise – you must think about these sayings and figure out what they mean.

Fear the Lord. Have healthy respect for God. He knows what He is talking about. Listening to Him and respecting Him is the beginning. You can hear Him by reading His words (the Bible) receiving what He offers –forgiveness and power to live right. In addition, talk to Him, then listen to how He responds to you in your heart and mind. Then walk out what He shows you is right in your life.

Don't despise wisdom. Don't distance yourself from it.

Hear the instruction of your father and your mother.

Don't listen to or consent to those who are not living right. Find people who are living right.

Don't steal or be violent. Don't keep company with those who do.

Don't be greedy. Greed will take your life.

Listen to wisdom and not simplicity.

Don't scorn (don't look down on others or what they say, especially if it is right)

Pay attention to wisdom. It will help you to avoid distress. If you don't pay attention to wisdom, then when distress comes, others will laugh.

Don't turn away from wisdom.

Don't be complacent. Be active in seeking wisdom and applying it. It will keep you safe and secure. You won't have to fear evil.

Benefits of Wisdom Proverbs 2

Understand the fear of the LORD

Know who God is and have a healthy love and respect for Him

Find the knowledge of God

Know more about God and His love

Know more of true justice

Be shielded

Walk uprightly – do the right thing

Be preserved – be saved, last longer, be protected, stick with it

Understand righteousness – virtue, morality, decency, uprightness, honesty, justice –right, impartial, fair, evenhanded,

Equity – treated equal, fair play, truth and good paths – decent, enjoyable, skillful, nice, well behaved, helpful

Knowledge will be pleasant to you

Discretion – be able to figure out what is right, careful, good judgment, prudence, caution and freedom

You will be delivered from evil, perverse things, those that don't do right, darkness, evil, those that like perversity, immoral and seducing women, those who cheat on you, and forsake their friends or forget God

You will be delivered from death and given life to your body, soul and spirit

Goodness, Right

Friends that are good and do right

Relationships that are blameless; Friendships that last

Stability; Roots

How to Get the Benefits of Proverbs 2

Receive the words of wisdom – Listen, take them in and apply what you are learning.

Treasure the commands – See that they are important, not just suggestions, but commands and comply willingly. If you are feeling resistant, ask God to give you the heart to hear and do what you need to do. Christ gave His life for loving you. He deserves it and his authority is loving.

Incline your ear – Listen carefully.

Apply your heart to understanding – Put your heart into it.

Cry out for wisdom – It doesn't just happen. Ask for and go after it.

Lift up your voice for understanding – Speak up. Ask for it.

Seek wisdom – Look, search, hunt, try to find it as you would if it were money or treasure.

Ask God – He's got it and He's giving it. He likes you and likes it when you communicate with Him that You value His knowledge and understanding.

Walk uprightly – Wisdom is an interactive learning experience The more you practice, the more can be added.

Be just – Be fair, right; not two-faced.

Become His – His children are called saints. It doesn't mean we are perfect, but we try and we are working on it. God perfects us in His love.

Let it enter your heart – It is not just a head thing.

Be discrete – Be separate, distinct, disconnected, not attached to wrong.

Be understanding – Be sympathetic, knowledgeable, thoughtful, kind.

Avoid – Evil, perverse talk and those who don't live right or rejoice in evil; peer pressure that leads you to wrong actions and attitudes; those who are devious (don't tell the truth or trick you) those who forsake friends and forget the promises they made to God. See that it is extremely hard to return from these, many never make it back. (Temptation looks good, but lies.)

Keep your promises to God

Live

Do good, Do right

Try and be blameless, – When you mess up, confess and receive forgiveness.

Stay in the good land – When you have found God and fellowship, stay with it.

Overview of Scripture

When approaching any study of the Bible, it is helpful to have an overview. No overview is complete and so could be misunderstood, but seeing the bigger picture helps put things in perspective. At that point, if something does not make sense, we can search the context of it and come out with a better understanding.

The Bible is one of the most accurate historical books. It is substantiated by many other documents and by many of the events recorded in it.

The Bible is divided into the Old and New testaments. The Old Testament tells how God called man to follow Him. Man would follow for a while and then would fall away.

When men messed up and hurt themselves and each other, God brought consequences. He gave people over to bondage that was painful and caused man to want to turn back to Him and receive His love, care and blessings again. It is story after story of man following for a while and then messing up again. It shows us our need for a Savior.

In the **Old Testament** you will find these events, and also the feelings and wisdom learned as people were going through them. Psalms and Proverbs are songs and sayings that were collected as people went through life. Times of hardships and praise are recorded, as well as lessons learned and the blessings of the writer's relationship with God. We can often relate to these writers as we embrace God in our walk through life.

The **New Testament** is about the Savior who came to reconcile us to God, and the way He affects us. The first four books, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, are about Christ's life. Christ means the Messiah, Savior, Promised One, or the Anointed One. The angel Gabriel told Mary to name Jesus Emanuel. Emanuel means "God with us." God Himself came to live as a man. These books, called the Gospel or Good News are accounts by four different people, two of whom lived with Christ, and one who researched and tied things together. Each verifies the other and enriches our perspective. Each one gives distinctive details, such as Luke, the physician, giving more physical details. As you read them, you will see how much God loves us, and how He interacts with us. He lived a life like ours, experiencing temptation and pain, as we have. He came to take on our sin and mistakes, to be sin itself. He died, took the punishment for our sin and provides forgiveness. His resurrection gives us new life and the power to live it.

Acts is the next book after the Gospels. It tells about the Holy Spirit. When Jesus died and was resurrected, He went to heaven and sent the Holy Spirit to earth. This is the part of God that is with us now. When God calls us to Himself, Christ and the Holy Spirit come to live within us as we accept Christ and what He did for us. The Holy Spirit does many things. Comforting, healing, teaching, sealing our Salvation, empowering us to live right, honoring and loving God are among them.

The rest of the books are letters Christians wrote back and forth to encourage each other during persecution and to help each other grow in faith. They show us what God did for us, help us grow deeper in faith and love, and teach us what to expect. 1st Corinthians, Ephesians, and 1st John are about love.

Revelation is about the end times and the future.

This is a simple framework to hang information on to help you understand Scripture.

Summaries of Each Book of the Bible

Romans explains the process of faith and growth in it. Sin brings death to our spirit but we can become right through faith and this brings life. Sin entered the world and has power in us, but Christ overcame sin and broke its power. Romans deals with the struggle of doing what we don't want to do and not doing what we do want to do. It shows us how we can make the right choice.

1st & 2nd Corinthians give spiritual wisdom and practical application in following God in the new life He gives us. This differs from following the world's ways. Galatians is about freedom. Ephesians is about going deeper, to know the height and depth of the riches of God's love.

Philippians is about perseverance. We encounter trials, but God can use everything, even the hard events of life, to bring about something good. It is about finding right thinking, unity, joy, fellowship, contentment, prayer, and giving God glory. Colossians is about growing in wisdom, becoming grounded, steadfast, rooted, built up and established in God's Word.

1st & 2nd Thessalonians are about rejoicing, thanksgiving, fellowship, encouragement in trials, and spiritual growth. The goal is love and purity. It talks about growing up in faith, letting God use your life and encouraging each other. Warnings about idleness and encouragement to not grow weary are here. 1st & 2nd Timothy talk about sound doctrine or healthy teaching, having a good conscience, Christ's love, ministry to others, and the Lord's faithfulness.

Titus is about qualities of a sound church, us being regenerated (made new) and denying ungodliness, worldly lusts, and quarrels. We do good works because of the kindness, mercy and love of God. Philemon gives encouragement and instruction to Believers to receive Onesimus as a brother.

Hebrews is about Christ, God's Son, being God's exact likeness or express image. He is superior to angels, is faithful, gives us rest, and brings us to God. We can trust His work and mercy. He is a priest who connects us with the Father. It is important to progress in faith, participating in a new agreement or covenant with God that renews our spirit. We need to love others, follow the directions the Lord gives, and ask for prayer.

James is about responding the right way to temptation and trials and respecting others, especially the lowly. Good works, controlling the tongue, learning God's wisdom, bringing peace, not judging others, not boasting or oppressing people, having patience and meeting other's needs are based on God's grace and our faith in Him.

1st & 2nd Peter deal with suffering, people's roles, submitting to God and resisting the devil, being aware and wary of false teachers and God's promise of Christ's return. He wants to give everyone time to come to Him. 1st, 2nd, & 3rd John are about love, obedience, truth, and generosity.

Jude warns about those who reject authority, speak evil of others, grumble, complain, walk according to lusts, talk well, flatter people, mock, and cause diversions. It includes encouragement to maintain faith, pray in the Holy Spirit, keep in God's love, be merciful, and hate evil. Many of these books end with blessings and giving God glory.

Revelation is about the end times' events that will occur before Jesus returns. It includes letters to churches that warn of specific problems and encouragement. It speaks of God's wrath against and victory over evil and the celebration of those who believe Him. It talks of a new heaven and new earth, the assurance of Christ's return, and makes a final offer of the water of life. It closes with a prayer for the Lord to come quickly and a blessing.

I am often asked where one should start reading. I recommend starting in the New Testament. Psalms and Proverbs are good sections of the Old Testament for inspiration. It is important to read in context so you see what specific verses mean within the text they are used. God bless you in your reading of His Word!

In Christ,

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT SHEET

Romans' chapter seven explains the struggle in detail. What I want to do, I cannot do, but what I hate, I do; there is evil in me. Who will save me from it? (Paraphrased) I thank God because He will, through Jesus Christ our Lord! The question is how?

In John 3, Jesus tells Nicodemous he must be born again. Nick doesn't get it. I can't start over by going back inside my mother? No Nick, but you can start again. God gives you that power and here is how.

Jesus was God coming to live with us. Emmanuel is what the angel told Mary to name Jesus and that means, "God with us." He was born of a virgin through the Holy Spirit. So God came and lived among us as a man. He experienced everything that we did.

Jesus knew human life. Others falsely accused him. He was tempted by Satan in his basic needs: food – to eat when he was really hungry; power or control- to tempt God; and relationship – to worship Satan and supposedly get something He wanted. Satan even tempted Jesus with Scriptures, but he used them out of context and Jesus knew the Scriptures' context. He also knew God the Father's voice, character, and love, so Jesus could respond with wisdom and resist the temptation.

Jesus was betrayed by one of his own disciples. Judas was disappointed that Jesus was only going to be a spiritual ruler, not a physical earthly one. Jesus was falsely accused, beaten and crucified in a most gruesome manner. Yet He still did not sin. He turned to God and asked God to forgive people, because they did not know what they were doing.

That is why the death of Jesus counts. He never sinned, so His death pays the price for the times we have missed the mark, hurt others or been hurt by the sins of others.

When we accept what He did for us and receive His forgiveness, then we are free. We don't have to live with guilt for any mistakes we have made anymore.

Besides Jesus death, He was resurrected. You can read about this in Matthew 26-28, Mark 16, Luke 24, and John 20. Because of this, Jesus gives us new life. When we accept His sacrifice for us, He gives us many things: the basic is forgiveness, new life, a new beginning. When you accept this, you become a Child of God. He adopts you and it becomes a positive, healing, life-giving relationship. (Romans 8:15, Eph 1:5) He sends the Holy Spirit to live in us and to seal the work He did for us. (Eph. 4:30)

When a person is born, it is important that they are raised with certain elements: good food or nutrition, shelter, light, nurturing, communication, and taught good skills and values. When you become a child of God, it is vitally important to choose places where your spirit can develop in a healthy way. It takes learning and wisdom to keep trials from wounding you, enabling them to become experiences that help you grow.

Certain elements parallel the needs of human development and spiritual growth. Learning and understanding is development like conception and growth in the womb. **Commitment** is being born again. It is a new start. **The Word of God**, the Bible, or Scripture, is like food. It nourishes us, helping us develop naturally as we take it in. Relationships and character grow healthier. **Prayer** is communication with God, as we need communication with parents. He is our shelter and guide. **Fellowship** is communicating with other family members. It nurtures the soul. We can choose spiritual family. **Worship** is adoration, music, spending time in God's presence. It is connecting with Him; it is serious play. **Serving** God is doing kind acts for others. It helps us be built up together as a loving family united in Christ.

These are all ways of both receiving from and ministering to God. The following sheet will help you develop these areas in your life.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET

Working these areas will help your spiritual life grow. This worksheet will help you get started. Start with what you can and make it workable. It is not a magic formula. These are helpful tools. The main idea is to seek God, learn to love Him, and know His voice in your life.

These will help build a strong foundation. Turn to them when a trial comes and you will put a lot of room between you and temptation. Sometimes it will challenge, mostly it will bring joy!

SCRIPTURES THAT ENCOURAGE ME:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

SEVEN WORSHIP SONGS TO SING:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

PRAYERS:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

PEOPLE I CAN CALL WITH PHONE NUMBERS:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

WAYS I CAN SERVE THE LORD:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

PLACES I CAN GO TO WORSHIP AND / OR GET INFORMATION TO DEVELOP MY LIFE WITH CHRIST:

NOTE: (To volunteers using form) Please check with MEC office to ensure we have a volunteer who is currently answering these requests.

MEC SERVICE EVALUATION FORM
(Return to MEC volunteer. Do **NOT** give to jail staff)

Your Name _____
(Optional; however, if you want a response, give your full name so we can contact you.)

Could anything have been done better to help you learn?

What did help you?

Prayer requests: What would you like us to continue praying for on your behalf?

Do you want follow-up information about churches or programs in your area? Yes/No

Area to Search: _____

Place to send info to:

Jail: _____

Anticipated release DATE: _____

OR

Address other than jail to send information to, if we are not able to respond to this by your release date.

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Intercession Ministry of MEC

Besides the regular MEC newsletter, we send out an intercession letter to those who specifically want to pray for MEC. We consider the intercessors a vital part of the work and just as important as the volunteers who go into the jail. Every volunteer is asked to have people they know pray specifically for them. Along with that, there are reasons to have regular intercessors.

Sometimes there are administrative needs and the staff at MEC needs prayer coverage. This is evident in the warfare we face sometimes in personal life, health or family issues, volunteer staffing (that changes when people get different jobs or have other reasons for resigning and replacements need to be found). Sometimes hearing inmate's stories or working with a volunteer that has family health, marital or other situations cause a need for additional prayer.

Inmates ask for prayer on their issues, which are always pretty serious. Sometimes the things you hear that you do not want to tell anyone else because they are traumatic, confidential or disturbing. The prayer requests for inmates, volunteers and staff are listed in a general way in a letter, which is sent out once a month.

The minimum for someone who signs up as an intercessor is to receive this letter and commit to praying one hour per month for the general newsletter and intercessor requests. **Here is a sampling** of what you would see in a letter from one service among the 80+ per week. The names have been changed here, but the requests are real. The intercession letter you receive will have the real first names with their requests.

Remember: Some, or many of these people, may not have any other people praying for them.

Inmate Requests

Joyce: I would like you to pray for my Dad and Mother. My girls Brie, Belinda, Brenda, & newborn Hannah. At this time I stay peaceful because I am here [for 5 months].

Kim: Please pray for my children Mary, Kelly Ann, grandchildren that they are safe. My court date is 6/19/06. Pray also that I pass my GED tests.

Mia: Family. All loved ones. Guide me on the right path. My son.

Cheryle: I want people to pray for me that I will get out and pray that family is O.K.

Jerry: Pray for my drug treatment. Children. Probation Officer.

Volunteer Requests

Rose Button: Son needs kidney donor. Pray for healing and walk with the Lord to be consistent.

Vincent: Pray for the grandchildren who have been moved out of state due to parents' divorce.

Other ways to lift us up are, praying for the services listed on the calendar, the staff, volunteers, inmates, and administrative needs, such as decisions on who to hire, financial concerns, and mostly that we follow the leading of the Holy Spirit in all that we do. When we minister to the inmates, they, in turn, impact their families and others. If they stay in their old ways they usually create victims. If they stay with Christ, they bring others to Him. We need those who will come to the throne of God and plead for His Spirit to work in their hearts and make their commitments lasting, turning people from darkness to light not of our own power.

*In Christ's grace and love,
Karen, Saul, and the MEC Staff*

Jail Ministry Training
By Saul & Karen Selby

Know your purpose

- Evangelism “Salvation”
- Discipleship “Sanctification”
- Sharing Christ’s love

Working with jail staff

- Administration
- Line-staff
- Following rules of the jail

Know your audience

- Education – learning & reading capabilities
- Religious Background – Churched vs Unchurched
- Addiction & it’s ministry implications

Managing Conflict

- Be kind
- Be aware if anti-social and defiant tendencies
- Be open to their thoughts even if they are wrong
- Ask them to pray and read the bible
- Common communication challenges on both sides

Spiritual Warfare

- Expect resistance
- Be prepared
- Prayer support
- Collegial support
- Word and testimony

Theological & Scriptural Emphasis

- Forgiveness & Repentance
- Parables are helpful
- Luke 15
- Keep it simple and practical
- Parable of the sewer
- Avoid controversial doctrine debates (Armenian vs Calvinism, Eschatology, Tongues etc.)

Transitional Issues & Aftercare

- Issues with churches – know and recommend churches that would be accepting of individuals coming out of jail
- Small groups are ideal
- Addiction support groups
- Work
- Mental Health

Victory over Addiction Curriculum

- Invite others to participate

Principles of Jail Ministry

Saul Selby

We need to:

Focus on the Basics: *Salvation and Sanctification*

Avoid Doctrinal Arguments: We don't want to confuse inmates nor distract them from Christ.

Always Focus on the Word of God: *(Hebrews 4:12) For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any double-edged sword; it penetrates even to the dividing of soul and spirits, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*

Salvation: *(Romans 1:16) I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, and then for the Gentile.*

(John 14:6) Jesus answered, "I am the way the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Grace, Mercy, and Forgiveness: *(1 Timothy 1:15-16) Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners – of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on Him and receive eternal life.*

Sanctification – Dealing with Sin: *(Romans 8:9) You however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.*

(Romans 8:13) For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if, by the Spirit, you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

(1 John 4:4) You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them because the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

Arrest Can Be Divinely Ordained: *(Romans 8:28-30) And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose. For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified; those He justified He also glorified.*

They Are Called to Minister: *(2 Corinthians 1:3-4) Praise be to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.*

The Need to Avoid Unhealthy Friends and Associates – and to Fellowship with Believers:

(1 Corinthians 15:33) Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."

(Hebrews 10:24-25) And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the day approaching.

Be Aware: Many inmates struggle with drug and alcohol addiction and without "abstinence" and support to achieve abstinence, they will likely return to jail.

Some inmates may have mental health issues that they may need assistance with.

PRISON FELLOWSHIP SEMINAR on JAIL MINISTRY

Introductions

Doris Mork, Director, Pilot Outreach

Karen Selby, Assistant Director, Missionary Evangelism to Corrections

Who is in jail?

A Variety of Inmates

Just Arrested: Have no idea what is going to happen to them

Been Through the System Before: Have some idea of what the legal process is and how to manage it. (Other inmates often look up to this)

Waiting: For a court date or for another county to come and get them

Have Been to Court Already: Awaiting another court date or trial

Going Through Trial

Plead Guilty and Avoided Trial: (Plea bargaining — Will plead guilty for a lesser sentence.)

Sentenced: It is less than a year.

Sentenced Longer than a Year: Waiting for prison to come and get them.

Questions: Some have a sense of what will happen, others are told very little and do not know at all - uncertainty

Reasons for Incarceration. (Examples of what they may be in for and how some responded to the Gospel or what direction you might take with your study.)

Addictions - DWI's - Denial - Truth: (*John 8:28-32 - KJV*)

Resistance - Domestic: (If someone calls 911 and there is a physical mark, the person is incarcerated. In the cycle of abuse, by the time the authorities get there, often the instigator is calmed down and the victim is very upset and looks like the one who needs help or has made a self preservation move that is dangerous.

One gal had 8 DUI's and was driving with 2-year-old and could not see the danger till the Lord's love broke through. One inmate looked in the Bible to prove the guard wrong and the Scripture convicted her.

Alcohol Violations: (*Proverbs 23:29-35*) Gives an accurate description of alcoholism.

Drugs: Marijuana, Crack, Cocaine, Meth = Sorcery by Steve Box (MAMA).

Threats (terrorist): Juvenile gal who just got into the car with someone she did not know and witnessed horrific crimes, and then got incarcerated with the group under this category. Her father and grandfather died while she was in the shelter and she felt the only people who did not shame her were the Bible Study leaders who told her about God's love. She accepted the Lord and did not stay with it, but later when a divorce threatened, she remembered what they had taught her when she heard a Christian song on the radio and came to the Lord then and is still following Him now.

Sexual Crimes: Needs may be other than sexual – culture twists things and as this is explained, women will respond with, “That is so true.” Eagle's Wings is a ministry for those coming out of lesbian or homosexual relationships. It is not on the public resource list, due to harassment by those opposed, but can be given out to those expressing prayer or need in this area.

You do not need to know what they are in for or apply studies directly. Often it is better not to know. Only if they offer without you asking. They might want you to know. Accept them even though you know what they did.

We used to see a lot of people who had a Bible background and could have people in the studies who know a lot about the Bible but need to know how to apply it to their situations. Many know or have heard the law or the works and have given up, but do not know grace and forgiveness. We are seeing more now who say they have grown up started using with parents at age 12. One even got drugs for Christmas at age 8. Some do not even think of drugs as wrong.

The need for healthy relationship is strong. The need to know God loves and He holds accountable, but He gives power to change is the strongest need. Many of them are people who have gotten so frustrated they have done something they wish they had not done. Often they know this and sometimes the shame is so strong that they hide it from themselves and the defenses need to be broken through. Sense the spirit or attitude that a question is asked. If the person is defensive, let them know that you will cover it in the teaching. They will receive it better than answering it directly, if they are challenging you.

What to Teach?

Assess Your Audience: If you have a small group, ask them where they are spiritually, letting them know that you are not looking for right or wrong, but where they are at so you know where to go with your lesson. In every service teach two things: Salvation and Growth concepts.

Salvation: Jesus provided forgiveness and power to change. (*John 3*) Born again. When we understand that the death of Jesus on the cross provides forgiveness and new life, then there is life there that was not there before.

Something to Grow With:

Always teach context for better understanding. It is so important because so many offbeat groups use Scripture out of context, so it is important to teach them to learn context and to compare what they learn with the Word of God.

An example of having them read to get the context is *(John 8:32)*. *The truth will set you free.*

While this is true of knowing the truth of circumstances, this verse is about more than just the circumstances. It is about belief, knowing God and discipleship. Key concepts to look at in the context of this Scripture are, becoming Sons of God, seeing things clearly (having light), Son of Man (Old Testament term = God), knowing truth and discipleship. *(John 1:12) But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name:*

(John 8:12 b) Jesus saying, "I am the light of the world: he that follows me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

(John 8:19) They asked, "Where is thy Father?" Jesus answered, "Ye neither know Me, nor my Father: if ye had known Me, ye should have known my Father also."

(John 8:28) Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of Man, then shall ye know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as my Father hath taught Me, I speak these things."

(John 8:31-32) Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on Him, "If ye continue in My Word, then are ye My disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

(John 8:51-52) Contains verses about the Son of Man and knowing Him.

The culture's definition of truth is different from the Bible's definition of truth.

A note about defining truth: Know the truth. (In some groups, it is beneficial to define truth, because the culture's definition differs from Scripture. If the group is defensive, it is better not to define it. Just start teaching from the verses.)

Food: The Word

Communication: Prayer

Nurturing: Fellowship

Values: Parents

Worship: Not just defined by music but Music is huge.

Service: To receive and give

Tools: Romans Road, Steps to Peace with God, pamphlet on Heaven and Hell, and other resources are helpful for some to teach with. If they are too rote, they will not seem authentic. A person's testimony is a great starting point. Use Scripture as it made sense to you at the time. For example, "This is what I felt when this started to make sense to me". . . An example such as hearing the words in the song, "There is now no condemnation" – Wow! – NO condemnation!

Parables and Accounts:

Woman at the well—Forgiven, yet cast debtor in jail—Vineyard—Prayer—Barn builder

Woman who washed Jesus' feet with her hair—Leaven—Fig tree—Thought they were righteous

Prodigal son—Tares—Sparrows-Ravens—Wedding feast placement—Old and new cloth

Blind lead blind—Persistent prayer—Cornerstone and fall on stone or it crushes—Shepherd / Sheep

Sower and Seed: Talk about how to make the ground productive – break up the ground and bring in good soil.

Otherwise, they may feel like I am the bad soil, so there is not hope.

(Romans 7) The Law makes sin apparent to me. I do what I do not want to do and don't do what I want to do – Who will save me? Christ. But How?

(John 15:4) Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine...

(Psalms 139) He knows and cares.

(Jeremiah 29:11) Plans for future and hope – These verses lead into verse 13. *Search with all of your heart and He will be found.*

These go well with *(Matthew 22:37) Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with thy entire mind. (Mark 12:30) And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with thy entire mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. (Luke 10) Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with thy entire mind; and thy neighbor as thyself.*

Each of these can be read aloud by the inmates within the context of those Scriptures. It will bring about good discussion of motives – Pharisees challenging, the law and grace, and who Christ is.

(Matthew 22:41-41) Discuss Christ and whose son He is. Some groups teach He is God's son and not God – but the term Son of Man is from the Old Testament and it means God. *(Matt. 22:45)*. *(Mark 12:35-30)* makes this clear. *(Luke 10)* is the practical application of the Good Samaritan.

Often inmates will need clarification on the Good Samaritan issue. Define love as what is best for both – not just helping someone who is in need. If they are enabling people to continue in sin, it is negative. Then they end up trapped in relationships that hurt, thinking that they love the person, and they get disillusioned. If they are enabling people to follow righteousness, it is good.

(*Isaiah 40*) and the next few chapters talk about idols. These take some sorting through to teach, but have some great allegories. No money, skilled craftsman, blown away- do not last, cannot see the truth that what is in my hand is a lie, need to rely on the Creator who has the power to redeem and heal, the Shepherd who will lead gently, who will hold your hand and walk with you through flames and rivers, and restore relationships. (*Isaiah 53*) Took our infirmities, bruised for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities, sheep gone astray, Lord laid on him the iniquity of us all. (*Isaiah 55*) *Ho everyone who is thirsty come to the waters, with no money, come buy and eat.* (*Isaiah 59*) *His arm is not too short to save.* (*Isaiah 60*) *Light is come and the glory of the Lord is risen.* (*Isaiah 61 and Luke 4:18*) These are great for showing a prophecy about Jesus that occurred and was fulfilled; as well as for teaching what He came to do and does.

Communicating the Need for Repentance to Inmates

(Helpful approaches volunteers have shared. See in conjunction with Saul's sheet on repentance.)

3 R's: *R* Regret—Wish had not happened because of consequences; *R*emorse—Feel bad for person harmed or negative action bothers you; *R*epent—Replace bad fruit with good.

Sharing that you have been there.

Understanding the Character of God

Need for the supernatural: (Cannot see sin unless God shows you – not condemnation, but reason to come for forgiveness) help to see need for forgiveness and to receive it.

Freedom: Found in cutting the strings of sin.

Renewing the Mind: The process is to minute by minute, day by day, fill your mind with God's Word.

Repentance: Not popular in America, but *John the Baptist and Jesus stressed it.*

Name and Confess Sin: Do this right away, so He can hear your prayers.

What's Next for Inmates?

Where do they go?

Home, Treatment, Another County, Prison, Halfway house? Friend? Streets?

AFTER CARE

Resource Sheets: Men's, Women's, (the one for Youth is in process—please contribute*****Important to get these to inmates where the jails will let you pass them out.

Different jails: Different systems

Vision

Opportunity: For such a time as this. Next session is on after care.

SUMMARY: *Two Pictures*

I try to give those who are interested in doing jail ministry a picture of what the inmates go through. Sometimes they have lost all. Often they put up with direct or indirect persecution from others who do not want to see or hear from someone who is seeking the Lord. After experiencing some pain in the church and questioning how real the Bible was, the gospel became more real to me when I saw people who did not have it in their lives and the searching and emptiness without it. Filling that with God's love is awesome.

I try to give inmates a picture of what life is like with God's love, power, forgiveness, and fellowship. It can be hard, but it is wonderful and there is peace and power. The sin, temptation, trials and world are the larger picture in their mind. We can help them to see those things as less and the Word of God, His love, power, forgiveness, and fellowship as the larger picture to focus on. Let the Word be enlarged in the focus and the trials will diminish.

In illustrating, use a picture frame with a picture in it as a symbol of what you see in life. Now in that picture, focus on one thing, and notice how everything else disappears from your view. This is how to renew your mind. Focus on the Word of God and it increases and the things of the world fade into the background.

If you have ideas that have worked well for you and want to contribute them to training, please submit them to mec@usfamily.net or P.O. Box 542, Wyoming, MN 55092

Prison Fellowship Front line 2/21/11

People often have “come to Jesus” moments in times of crisis, like while lying in a hospital bed with a critical illness or while holding on for dear life during an earthquake. These moments ... illuminate the frailty and brevity of life, causing a sudden realization of our dependence on God. One might question the authenticity of a faith conversion made in such dire circumstances: Is the decision genuine or is it spurred only by fear in a last ditch effort to “make it into heaven?”

As one can imagine, a similar phenomenon happens behind prisons walls—to such an extent that it’s been coined “jailhouse religion.” Men and women get locked up and, in a moment of regret and despair, come to faith. Although we at Prison Fellowship rejoice along with you when any inmate comes to know Jesus, we must also be aware of the tendency to make rash decisions without fully understanding the commitment—and use this awareness to better minister to the inmates.

Spiritual Jackets

Over many years of prison ministry, Sam Dye, the national program director of the InnerChange Freedom Initiative[®], a values-based reentry program developed by Prison Fellowship, has seen his fair share of jailhouse spirituality. As he trains staff and volunteers in effective prison ministry, He has learned the importance of not only preaching and teaching, but also allowing room for real transformation to occur. According to Dye, if faith-based volunteers are not careful, they can unknowingly create “spiritual criminals.” ... who wears religious values like an external coat...[that can be you can taken] on and take it off at will, depending on who’s around. It’s really not a part of you.” This ... can actually do more harm than good, because it gives the volunteer false joy, and it denies the inmate the chance for a real, life-altering transformation. In order to avoid the trap of enabling inmates to fake spirituality, volunteers must continue to watch for the signs, and be ready to combat them.

“We have to marry two things together ... “We have to deliver content that targets the behaviors that contribute to criminal behavior and recidivism in such a way that the ‘Aha!’ moment comes. The paradigm shifts and the new grid is in place so that new content can go on the new grid and the heart is changed. Otherwise, we’re just handing out jackets.”

On the Lookout Recognize the signs of fake spirituality and address the issues, affording inmates ... the opportunity to truly assess their beliefs and allow room for Christ-centered transformation.

Do not allow inmates to speak in “Christianese.” When faking spirituality, inmates may speak in Bible lingo or overused Christian terms. Remember to always speak plainly with them. This will help them understand and grasp the concepts.

Don’t accept statements at face value. When an inmate says something—especially if it’s something you want to hear—it’s easy to just nod and move on with the discussion. Remember to stop and probe further, prodding them to rationalize their responses.

Don’t be impressed with Bible knowledge. Lots of inmates may know a lot of Scripture, especially considering they have so much time to read it. Don’t mistake this memorization for actual understanding and application. Ask them to connect these principles to their behavior and real life situations.

Ask good questions and allow time for responses. Don’t just give information. This is not only boring, but ineffective. Ask questions that cause the inmates to think and reflect on their own lives and choices.

Relationships are primary, resources secondary. Inmates often seek to gain “things” from volunteers, so they fake spirituality to make volunteers happy. Remember to always give of yourself by caring, volunteering, and praying. Don’t ever give money or things to prisoners, but rather focus on their internal transformations. This is for your safety and for their spiritual benefit.

Pray for the Spirit’s discernment. When dealing with jailhouse religion, it’s important to ask God to help you realize the difference between fake and real transformations. God can give you wisdom in this area—Ask for it!

Staying Focused

In ministering to inmates, it’s important to remember that the ministry is about the prisoner, not the volunteer. Prisoners will often want to please volunteers, and this can steer the ministry away from its goal—bringing prisoners to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ....

As we focus on inmates, it is essential that we aim to see the real change that only God can bring. Romans 12:2 speaks of this very transformation: “Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—His good, pleasing, and perfect will.” ...There is a positive side to jailhouse religion...We pray that even during their darkest hour they find the peace and love that can only be found in Jesus Christ. As responsible volunteers and mentors, we strive to walk with them as they discover their newfound faith, so it becomes an authentic, lifetime commitment.

Spiritual Warfare

For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in heavenly realms. Eph. 6:10-12

Spiritual warfare is about understanding and then resisting, overcoming, and denouncing the lies that the enemy tells us. Sometimes, those of us who become the hands and feet of God will come across spiritual warfare.

You may find that the day before you are going to minister, or while you are preparing, you will be tempted to get into conflicts with others. Listen to your thoughts and determine any accusations towards yourself or others to not be true. I have often found that after ministry time, what seems important as a potential conflict, no longer has the power to bother me.

To stay on the defensive against the devil, it is important to:

- ⇒ Be in prayer and have others pray in regards to your involvement in the jail ministry. I had a mentor who taught me to have two people pray for me each time I minister. Over the years, I have seen a difference in the number of people who come and in their attitudes when they arrive. With prayer, there is more openness and teach ability for both the inmate and the teacher.
- ⇒ Stay involved with a home church. We want to provide as much support for you as possible. Your home church is your primary accountability.
- ⇒ Have consistent bible-reading and devotion time with the Lord. You are giving spiritually when you are ministering – make sure that you are being filled back up by abiding in the vine. (John 15) and not going thirsty (John 4) or living by bread alone (Luke 4).

Victory Over Addictions Curriculum

- VOAC was developed by a professional counselor who has 30 years of sobriety and who now does counseling, counselor trainings and video products pertaining to recovery from addictions. Each segment has a teaching session discussing a topic related to recovery and recorded interviews concerning that topic with people who are doing well with their recovery. Almost everyone on the video has overcome his or her addiction and is now leading a stable life. Among others, some of the interviews are successful in the following roles: lawyer, pastor, work in corrections, prevention in high schools, regional director with Boy Scouts, mother and homemaker.
- Following the video section there are worksheets with questions related to the topic, which are answered individually, and in group discussions.
- There are further study worksheets you can take with you after the class to delve deeper into the topic.
- If you cannot finish the entire curriculum while you are here, you can purchase a DVD for suggested donation for inmates of \$10 and download the worksheets off of www.mecjailministry.com The worksheets can be discussed or filled out and checked by an approved volunteer or staff member.
- We developed this class after years of working with inmates and addicts. Most all of the teachers have had some experience with addictions and recovery.

Topics Covered

- | | | | |
|------------|------------------------|------------|-----------------------|
| · Disk 1 : | 1- God Uses Jails | Disk 2: 1- | Trials & Persecution |
| | 2 - Denial | 2- | Love & Forgiveness |
| | 3 - Sin & Consequences | 3- | Making Amends |
| | 4 - Repentance | 4- | Temptations |
| | 5 - Identity in Christ | 5- | Relationships |
| | 6 – Holiness | 6- | Ministry, Giving Back |



Missionary Evangelism To Corrections

Sharing the gospel & Christ's love with those in corrections since 1982

Dear Friends of MEC,

In addition to current Church, Bible Study, Spiritual Counseling, and Christian Recovery classes in 19 jails, we are thankful for the opportunity to begin a formal reentry program in Chisago County, Center City jail and RCC -VOA in Roseville. Recidivism - inmates returning to jail after release because of committing another crime - can be decreased by helping them plan for reentry to the community. Based on reputable reentry programs, the recidivism decreases by 70-80%.

Volunteers are being trained to meet with inmates to answer reentry planning requests. The volunteers will provide resource information, help individuals set goals and, whenever possible, connect or provide a trained mentor. Connecting inmates with resources such as housing, job services, treatment, support groups and churches; teaching values-based goal setting; and mentoring which provides accountability and support will facilitate successful return to the community.

We are asking for assistance in the following areas:

1. Calling to make sure resources are current and entering resource information into the computer
2. Meeting with inmates to provide resource information and helping them set goals
3. Meeting with a mentee before he or she is released and, if possible, weekly after release, for an agreed amount of time, to cover some material and discuss the progress with their goals.
4. Assistance with training Reentry planners and Mentors
5. Prayer & Financial support

Time and again, we read heartfelt and heart rending requests for prayer. We read requests from inmates who are desperate for freedom from addiction to drugs or alcohol begging for prayer that need Christ-centered treatment. Mothers and Fathers are asking for prayer for their families' safety and to bring them back together in healing. Teen-age boys about to be sent to prison for years needing encouragement and the hope that Christ will be with them in prison, too. Women who sell themselves, wanting to change, but believing they will have to turn a trick for money to make a phone call. Many are convicted and remorseful asking for prayer that their victim forgive them. People who are homeless need somewhere to go when are released. We hear over and over heartfelt desires to change and seeing - many for the first time - Christ's grace is available to them and provides the way to change.

MEC's reentry program will help individuals create a plan, provide resource information specific to their situation and support through mentoring. Besides programs we give them Bible believing home churches to consider and, whenever possible, a caring person they are accountable to. Our program is already working - one of the first inmates we worked with is now living successfully and applying to be a house mother in sober housing.

We need your help to develop our program. Please give us your prayerful support. Visit our website where you can apply to become a volunteer or support MEC financially.

In Christ, *Saul & Karen Selby*

"The Spirit of the Lord is on Me, because He has anointed Me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Luke 4:18-19

MISSIONARY EVANGELISM TO CORRECTIONS
PO Box 542, Wyoming, MN 55092
651-408-1300
mec@usfamily.net
www.mecjailministry.com

MEC CCLI and Song Select License

MEC has acquired a license so that our volunteers can legally print the lyrics and music of copyrighted worship songs for MEC services. The license is through CCLI (Christian Copyright Licensing International).

To Use This Service:

1. On a computer with internet access, go to <http://www.ccli.com/>.
2. Move the pointer over "North America," then click on "United States."
3. After the next page loads, enter our user I.D. and password in the blanks on the right-hand side beneath SONGSELECT / COPY REPORT. Our user ID is "mecvolunteer" and our password is "jailministry." Log in.
4. A new window will open that says, "Welcome MEC Volunteer." Click on "Launch SongSelect." A new page will open from which you will be able to search for music.

To Get Lyrics:

In the box in the upper right corner, you can search for songs by lyrics, title, author, and several other ways. You can find a song even if you only know part of a line, title, or author's name.

Please also Remember the Following:

Part of our license agreement is to report periodically which lyrics we are downloading from CCLI's website. This affects the royalties the artists receive from CCLI.

1. After downloading lyrics, please send an e-mail to Brian Kendall, MEC's CCLI license administrator, at brian-kendall@hotmail.com with the song title, author, and CCLI song number.
If you do not have e-mail, please send the information to:
Brian Kendall, 1439 Case Ave #2, Saint Paul, MN 55106
You may also call 612-807-0510 and leave him a message.
2. Read the instructions, sign this statement, and return to MEC. When it is acknowledged we have received the form, you may begin using the site.
Persons resigning as MEC volunteers for schedule changes or any other reason must notify us.

- I have read the instructions and understand that I cannot give the license number or permission to use the site other than for MEC ministry purposes.
- I agree to report my use of the site and songs used. I agree to not use this service with MEC's license information if a time comes that I am not a MEC volunteer.

MEC Volunteer Signature and Date

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