



SOMEONE CARES PRISON MINISTRY NEWSLETTER



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Quietly Changing Lives

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IT IS REALLY TRUE
GOD LOVES YOU.

BECAUSE OF YOU,
SOMEONE CARES.

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ministry, supported by God's love
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A HAPPY AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR TO YOU AND YOURS



Forty one years ago we started this Ministry and that thanks to you it still is growing. My health has not done very well recently. As a result our grandson Jacob Coates will be taking over with Yvonne and I in the background as extra help and guidance. Please call us with any questions at 260-387-7423. God Bless you and yours!

Don and Yvonne, The God Squad.

HELLO FOLKS!

Hello Folks, Jacob Coates here. With the new year there will be some new changes. It will take some getting used to how things will be with the ministry now subsiding at my home. I'm doing my best to get all caught up on the mail and getting my office all set up. I hope to get some things updated with the ministry as far as catching up with technology and the convenience to the younger generation (always being on their phones).

Some of you have been with the ministry a very long time and I love that you all have been so helpful and loyal to us in our quest to do the Lords work, and for that I thank you all! If you have any questions or suggestions I would be more than happy to hear them. I will do the best I can to answer any questions. You can contact me at my e-mail: jacobmichael5253@outlook.com or send a letter to us with attention to me, Jacob Coates.

With all of this being said I hope this will be a smooth transition. Again I thank you all for your loyalty and I am open to any suggestions you may have. I look forward to working with you all!

God bless, Jacob Coates

A VERY SPECIAL STORY

There was a story that came to my attention that I wanted to share with you. It is an amazing testimony and goes to show how wonderful this ministry is and how much impact all the work you all do has on the lives of others.

We have a couple that has been writing to inmates through our ministry for about 10 years. They are writing to 5 inmates currently. One of the inmates recently was released from prison and this story is a very touching one.

“One inmate I was writing to was named Roberto. After writing for a few months we convinced him to start taking Bible classes and attending church, which he followed through with and completed Bible school. After writing him for about 2 years time, we developed a strong friendship, and we decided to go try to visit him. Although it seemed risky to me to apply for visitation because it would give away our personal information, we followed through moving forward in faith. After a couple visits we learned that he had a girlfriend who was also the mother of his children. We learned that they had not seen each other in years. So we decided to take yet another step in faith. We asked to contact his girlfriend and set up a way for them to see each other and be reunited.

Operating totally in faith, I took another leap forward and invited his girlfriend and their children into our home for the weekend prior to taking them to see their incarcerated loved one. They were so excited to see one another. Roberto was the only inmate I had written to that had never asked me for money, stamps or writing materials. He took welding classes these past two years and when he was released he had 4 certificates for welding. He had recently told me that he had been involved in gangs all of his life. He had left the prison gang lifestyle behind only a couple weeks before he and I started writing to one another, I encouraged him and lifted him up in prayer. God truly blessed our relationship! He felt like a son to me. We had lovely visits with him discussing religion and the Bible, along with answering many questions that would come up.

My husband has a license to marry anyone. When Roberto was finally released he asked if my husband could marry him and his girlfriend that very same day of his release! We were so excited to be a part of this big decision they were making. At 5:30pm October 1 we had a small ceremony in our backyard, next to our pool. There were 5 people in attendance all of which were family. I baked a small 3 tiered carrot cake. My dear husband gave such a special talk before marrying them.

I want to give ALL the honor and glory to God for the relationship we have with this family. They are back home now and Roberto is looking for work. PLEASE keep him in your prayers that God will provide him with a job.

It is interesting to me that he had never held a real job before, never owned his own car, never really been responsible for himself. it is amazing, wonderful and fantastic to know that we have had such an impact on his life. Its amazing to serve such a wonderful God to have blessed this relationship in such wonderful ways.

If every prisoner had someone who stuck with them, believed in them and lifted them up in prayer, I dare say, their would be much fewer re-offenders. Yes, a lot of people in prison are “con-artists”. But how can we judge others if we were guilty of disappointing our heavenly Father over, over and over again. It’s a risk to be taken advantage of yes, but, you know, once we give of ourselves, what others do with that gift is between them and the Lord.”

This is such a heart warming story, I wanted to share it with you all. And reassure you that this work we all do has such an amazing impact on the lives of others and the lives that most of society would consider a “lost cause”. That comment she makes at the end got me, “you know, once we give of ourselves, what others do with that gift is between them and the Lord”. That statement is so true! We have an obligation, not to just anyone, but to the Lord God Almighty to be kind, loving and open hearted. Give guidance to the ones who need it.

Hebrews 10:34 says: *For you had compassion on those in prison, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one.*

Hebrews 13:3 says: *Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body.*

I have heard my grandfather say these in sermons my whole life. When trying to explain to me the severity of this ministry and the work we all do. This has brought me so much joy to read a real story about this experience, and the impact it had on this family’s life.

I’ll close with that and before I go I want to put out there that we have a lot of unclaimed mail to you pen friends due to unmatched alias names. These names include: Mimi Marie, Delilah Lee and Gloria Jean. These are just a few of the names that we have multiple letters addressed to. If you believe you are missing mail please feel free to contact us and we will do all that we can to get it all figured out.

God Bless, Jacob Coates and the Someone Cares Family.