

Join us for prison letter answering on the fourth Tuesday evening of the month at IMMANUEL FELLOWSHIP CHURCH 3533 East Tolbert Road, Wooster, Ohio

To help provide Bibles, concordances, and Bible courses for those in prison, your support would be greatly appreciated. See the enclosed envelope or send your gift to: PO Box 135 / Fredericksburg, OH 44627-0135

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED WITH THE PRISON MINISTRY, CONTACT US.

# **Financial Report**

December 31, 2020

Balance 10/1/2020	\$93,437.50
INCOME	12,603.00
Donations	5,195.00
Church Donations	7,408.00
EXPENSES	(14,283.25)
Literature	5,344.09
Supplies	637.46
Postage	4,971.70
Legal/Professional Fees	1,885.00
Outside Help	1,445.00
Balance 12/31/2020	\$91,757.25

### Literature sent

October 1 - December 31, 2020

Bibles	174
Concordances	224
Bible Atlas	15
Bible Dictionaries	94
Study Courses	870
Spanish Bibles	248
Spanish Concordances	2
Spanish Bible Dictionaries	24
Loaves & Fishes Magazine	41
A Life Redeemed Book	63
The Greatest Love Story Book	0
Created With Purpose Book	0
Marriage Courses	3
Letters Answered	1,010
Inmate Newsletters	1,055

Photo credits: Shawn Martir

#### **Board Members**

Noah Martin / James Martin Stephen Martin / Alvin Mast Henry Beachy / Joe LaFave

### **Christian Fellowship Prison Ministries**

PO Box 135
Fredericksburg, OH 44627
Website: cfprisonministries.org

"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." John8:36

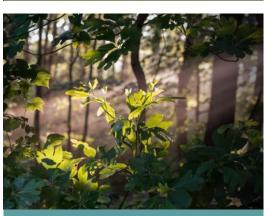
# Christian Fellowship PRISON MINISTRIES

REACHING THE BOUND TO FREE THEIR SOULS BY THE POWER OF CHRIST

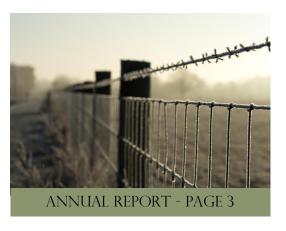
2020

Fourth Quarter Report





INMATE RESPONSES - PAGE 2



### Dear supporters,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." 1 Peter 1:3-5. The Apostle Peter wrote these inspiring words in a letter that was written to the believers many years ago. We have much reason to rejoice and praise the Lord our God! His mercy is ABUNDANT! He has given us a LIVING hope! He has given us an INHERITANCE that will not fade or be taken away! The power of God can KEEP us! If we would look around at all the turmoil and unrest and violence, we could become fearful and discouraged. What is going to happen with us? What will happen in the government? What is truth and what is lies? What will happen to our children? Will we always have to wear masks? Should we get a vaccination? When we think about all of these things, fear can easily grip our hearts and souls. Satan wants us to live in fear. He wants us to make decisions in reaction to our fear. Fear can paralyze us. Fear can cripple us. Fear brings torment

to our minds. In 1 John 4:18 it says, "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love." So how can we get rid of this fear that wants to threaten us and take over? We need to love. We need to get our eyes off of the things around us and

"Fear has a large shadow, but he himself is small."

-Ruth Gendler

gaze on our Redeemer. Remember when Christian (in Pilgrim's Progress), was on the narrow path leading up to Palace Beautiful? Two lions were on either side of the pathway roaring and threatening those who passed by. Christian was afraid and nearly turned back because it seemed they would surely devour him. The porter of the Palace saw him standing there frightened, encouraged him and told him to not be afraid because the lions were chained and couldn't hurt him if he stayed on the path. (He had not seen the chains). And so, trembling, he went on his way....

So, as we start out a new year, let's not get distracted with the roaring lions. What did that verse in 1 John say? "There is no fear in love". So, in the middle of fearful situations, we need to spend more time with our Lord. We need to love Him more. We need to sit at His feet and learn of His ways. We need to walk as He walked. We need to respond as He did. Lord, help us to love you more.

We thank the Lord for our faithful brothers and sisters in prison. We thank the Lord for the faithful volunteers who spend hours writing letters. We thank the Lord for the faithful ones who give financially. Thank you, Lord, for those who work in the postal service. Thank you, Lord, for your faithfulness. May everything we do and say be for Your glory. Amen.

In His Service, James Martin

# INMATE RESPONSES





**I wrote this poem** about the time I started down my slippery slope. I really did not care who I took with me. I was hurt, depressed, and so angry I couldn't sleep. I couldn't eat. I couldn't turn to anybody for help. My roommate was really tired of me, then one Sunday night we had a really bad argument. It almost ended up in one of us moving, and for three days neither of us spoke to each other.

While everyone was at dinner on Tuesday, I started yelling, "Why am I here on earth? To be hurt, abused, and stepped on?" I started kicking the lockers and slammed the bathroom door a couple times. I had enough and went to the yard to clear my head. I couldn't. I went to bed and really couldn't sleep.

Wednesday after breakfast, after being lower than rock bottom, something told me to pray. I looked around. My roommate was asleep and so were the others in my dorm. "Pray" were the words again. I turned over and said

# Darkness

Dark days filled my life with utter despair, I was too proud to ask if anybody cared. Would've said "yes" to fill me with Gladness, to leave me with Loneliness, Guilt, and Sadness.

THOUGHTS OF SUICIDE TO END THIS LIFE OF HELL IT'S REALLY HARD TO BE JOYFUL WHILE IN JAIL. I NEED TO BE FORGIVEN FOR MY SINFUL PAST, WONDERING IF... HOW LONG IT WILL LAST.

I LIVE IN A WORLD SURROUNDED BY FEAR AND STRIFE, USED TO THINK THERE IS NO HOPE FOR THIS LIFE. ONLY HEARTACHE AND WOE FILL MY HEART NOW, WHAT I NEED IS JESUS TO CLEANSE ME SOMEHOW.

JESUS?! WHO'S THIS ALOUD I SAY? SOMETHING TOLD ME HE'S THE WAY. HE'LL BRUSH AWAY ALL OF OUR FEARS, THAT ENGULF MY HEART TORN IN TEARS.

FOR HE IS THE MASTER OF ALL CARES, OF ALL THE WOUNDS AND GRIEFS I BEAR. AND IN MY NEEDS OF COMFORT AND GLEE, IS THE PEACE WHEN I'M ON BENDED KNEE. the following words; "Heavenly Father." The tears came. I got down on my knees and prayed like I've never prayed before. My roommate, as I was sobbing, patted me on the back and said, "This too shall pass." I asked God for forgiveness, for guidance, and for Him to remove the depression, hurt, anger, and sin out of me. I asked Him to fill me with the joy, happiness, and the peaceful love that I now have.

While writing down what just happened, God told me to get rid of my porn. I used to be gay, but God delivered me from that. I also had two strings torn from a sheet. I was so tired of living I didn't care. No one would miss me. I handed them to my roommate and said, "I don't need these anymore".

My roommate handed me a sheet of paper. The words he wrote a few years back were the words I had just prayed – "Whatever I ask, it shall be done." I have no doubt that God is real! Thank you.

- Chowchilla California

# 2020 Annual Report

# **Financial Report**

January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020

#### Balance 1/1/2020 \$9,345.43 INCOME 149,458.19 **Donations** 131,693.66 **Church Donations** 17,764.53 **EXPENSES** (67,046.37)Literature 30,527.84 Supplies 3,669.32 Postage 24,971.71 Legal/Professional Fees 1,960.00 Outside Help 5,917.50 **GIFTS-IN-KIND** (33,464.00)26,600.00 1,900 Spanish Large Print Bibles 48 Large Print Compact Bibles 288.00 504 Ultra Thin Reference Bibles 4.536.00 200 Hand Size Giant Print Bibles 2,040.00 Balance 12/31/2020 \$91,757.25

### Literature sent

January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020

Bibles	828
Concordances	1,071
Bible Atlas	67
Bible Dictionaries	340
Study Courses	3,645
Spanish Bibles	1,375
Spanish Concordances	24
Spanish Bible Dictionaries	113
Loaves & Fishes Magazine	194
A Life Redeemed Book	263
The Greatest Love Story Book	18
Bilingual Bibles	92
Marriage Courses	14
Letters Answered	4,824
Inmate Newsletters	4,313

#### To my friends at Christian Fellowship Prison Ministries;

Thank you for sending me the concordance I requested. It is a great help to me in my word studies. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psalm 119:105

I have asked Jesus Christ to come into my heart, and I believe Jesus died for the world to save those who believe and receive God's gift of grace. I'm walking in God's love, and keeping my heart, mind, and soul focused on the Lord! Because He is the one who is able to complete the work that He started in me.

Please add me to your prayer list. I strive everyday to walk humbly with the Lord. I struggle sometimes when it comes to loving others who seem to be in opposition to Jesus Christ. But I have seen God work, and I know if God can reach a sinner like me, He can reach others as well.

I think Jesus is coming soon; (and not just because I'm 53 years old). I will be awake, so the thief won't be able to steal my soul any longer. The Lord has been speaking to my heart in amazing and wonderful ways. To God be the glory.

-Huntsville Texas