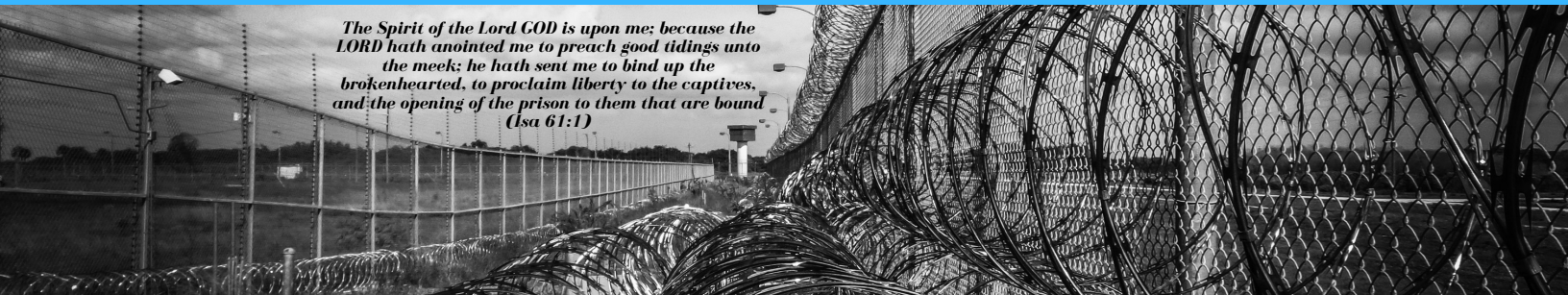


and beyond

LIBERTY BEHIND BARS MINISTRY

Sending Church: Black Creek Baptist Church

JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER



The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound (Isa 61:1)

Looking Forward...

Isaiah 43: 18-19

Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

This past year definitely has felt like a desert or wilderness! No matter what happens with COVID, no matter who takes office in January; God is still in full control of it all. Whatever your fear may be, remember NONE of this has taken God by surprise! Jesus says in *Mark: 5:36 Be not afraid, only believe.* Do you believe? Knowing bible verses and believing/living bible verses are two totally different things. The only way to find out where you stand is to go through what we might face. Throughout the Bible we see God doing this to test our faith. Here are two examples *Deuteronomy: 8:2-3 And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no. And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live. 1 Peter: 5:10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, AFTER (emphasis mine) ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.*

In these times, allow the Word of God to examine you and test your faith. Let it show you if you are just one who has bible knowledge or one who believes and lives what the bible says. *Proverbs: 3:5 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.* Many know these verses, but few can live them. Where do you stand?

Matthew 28:20b

I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Praises with a bit of prayer...

Most, if not all jails and prisons in New York have been shut off to outsiders due to Covid-19. However, I am in constant contact with the administration and the Chaplain at the Monroe County Jail (MCJ). Currently the Chaplain is the only one allowed to minister in the jail. Knowing that I supply KJV bibles to the individuals that I work with, he knew to contact me when the jail ran out of bibles. Just before the shut down in December, with donations made to LBB, I was able to purchase 500 bibles (\$3,000) and was able to supply MCJ with 2 cases! I still mail in bibles to individuals there, but the Chaplain knows to contact me when he runs out! I praise the Lord that we are able to get the one and true Word of God in this jail and others!

Most ministries work face-to-face in order to have an impact or develop relationships with the men and women behind bars. Although I do believe this is the best practice, when you are unable to, you need to find other avenues. The Lord has given us a way to minister through the postal service! Just as Paul wrote and sent letters to the churches, so the Lord keeps me busy with writing and sending letters to our friends (inmates) for counsel, prayer and bible devotionals. It has been awesome to see God not only working in the MCJ but also in jails and prisons across America. We are receiving 1-3 new people contacting LBB requesting the devotionals, prayers, bibles, bible Q&A, counseling, etc.

Even with churches being closed off to having us in due to the virus, it has been absolutely amazing to see how the Lord has financially provided for the ministry's needs. On average we send out close to 200 devotionals once a month which totals \$110 a month! Add to that the expense of mailing bibles in to individuals on a weekly basis (approx. \$100+/mo). We also mail in study materials to assist individuals in their walk with the Lord. These continue to grow on a weekly basis!

IN THIS ISSUE

Looking Forward...

Praises with a bit of prayer...

Special Thanks...

Ministry Needs

Contact

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In NY state prisons there is a service called JPay which allows individuals to email their loved ones. LBB has an account and I am able to email my friends to encourage them, to offer prayer, and to give bible teachings. The cost to send an email is the same as a stamp. I have over 20 (and growing) individuals that I minister to in this way. I am also able to pay for their stamps for them to correspond back to me; as most of them lack funds to do so. These expenses are approximately \$75+ a month. These are just a few of the ministry needs that your prayers, love, and financial support make possible!

In *1 Samuel 17:20a* And David rose up early in the morning, and left the sheep with a keeper... David had someone that he trusted and when he had to leave, he depended on his keeper to tend to his sheep. My prayer is the Lord give me a "keeper." When I have to travel to present the ministry to churches, I need someone to go into the MCJ to preach the Truth to these men while I am away.

Due to Covid-19 it has been difficult in getting new meetings/opportunities to present the ministry. As of now, LBB is scheduled for a missions conference in April as long as it does not get cancelled due to heightened restrictions. Please pray that more doors are opened!

Testimonies

J.A. writes: I just found out today that they are giving my merit (earned "good" time) back Dale! I can't even describe how powerful the presence of God is in my life right now with everything going on.

A.W. writes: I am writing this letter to you to ask for "Extra" help in being raised and trained in the ministry, to establish a relationship with you before I leave the jail, to be well fortified and equipped to walk with God and resist the devil, and to serve God with my gift of ministry I believe God had placed on me.

As for my family and I...

Please continue to pray for my physical health as I continue with the ministry. Paul writes in *2 Corinthians 12:8-10* *For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.*

Pray that the Lord makes it possible for LBB to be full time in the ministry this year! We are so very close to this happening! As much as we appreciate and praise the Lord for every single dollar we receive in support for LBB, it is not enough to cover ministry and family expenses. But we trust the Lord that he will make a way! *Matthew 19:26b ...With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.*

*Praise
the Lord*

The children have adjusted to their homeschool studies and enjoy being home and learning so many things. Both children are learning new musical instruments, cooking, sewing, and money management (so much needed now a days)! It has truly been a blessing to have them home.

This past March our son Luke was marvelously saved! He was baptized on Sunday, January 3rd! Praise the Lord for his goodness! Keep him in prayer as well!



A Special Thanks to....

- The Sheriff, Under-sheriff, Superintendent, and Chaplin at the Monroe County Jail for allowing me to minister to the individuals in their facility
- Those volunteers that help stuff and mail devotionals and help with bible distribution
- For those churches and individuals who support LBB on a monthly basis through financial support, materials (stamps), and prayers!

PRAYER REQUESTS

- * Opportunity to present the ministry to churches locally and nationwide
- * Opportunity to have revival meetings in jails and prisons locally and nationwide
- * Churches to partner with LBB to work with newly released individuals
- * "A Place of Refuge" (Isaiah 4:6) – a transition home
- * Monthly Financial Support
- * Salvation of both the men/women we work with and the Deputies

SPECIFIC MINISTRY NEEDS

- postal stamps
- 9 x 12 manila envelopes (w/out clasp)
- regular legal size envelopes
- printing paper
- shipping cost for bibles
- printer/copier ink