



Our Mission:

Our Mission: "Ministering through the heart of Jesus to the broken hearts of those impacted by the criminal justice system, both those incarcerated and re-entering and their families."

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KINGSWAY BANNER
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Contributing Editor Wayne Berman



Praise

In one of the German art galleries a painting entitled "Cloud Lane" hangs at the end of a long, dark hall. At first glance, it appears to be a huge, ugly mass of confused color that is unattractive and foreboding. But when you look closer, you see portrayed on the canvas an innumerable company of angels.

How tempted we are to run in despair when clouds of trials and temptations come our way. If we would look closely at our situation through the eyes of faith, we would also see God's angels of mercy coming to our aid..

God never forgets or leaves us alone. He will send someone across our path to help us in tough times. He is also there during the good times.

Let us not forget to take time to Praise Him and fellowship with him.

Kingsway tries to build up the down trodden in the worst situation in their lives. You can always find one thing to be thankful for.



Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Colossians 3:16

Servant Leadership



...it shall not be this way among you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."... Matthew 20:26-28

In ministry we must be careful to remember who we serve. The Lord wants us to have a servant's heart one to another. Not only for the people we minister to but those who labor with us in the fields. We must never lose sight of this very important aspect. We should always thank God and the ones around us for the results that come forth.



Louise Jennings

Jim's Testimony

Jim started out spending the better part of 45 years abusing many different drugs, in particular methamphetamine. It had gotten to such an extreme point that he became too sick to work, suffering from congestive heart failure and coming ever closer to death. But even this suffering did not make Jim stop his drug use or seek desperately needed medical help. It would take Divine intervention to truly turn his life around. After being forced to go to the hospital, the last thing Jim remembered was laying on a gurney in the ER and asking if they could get ESPN on the TV. For the next fourteen days Jim lay in a coma so close to death that the doctors had all but given up on him. During this time, he found himself in many otherworldly scenarios, fighting demons, speaking to dead relatives and being protected by two Guardian Angels. Finally, a day came when, in a flash of bright light, Jim saw the face of Jesus and had an outer body experience where he viewed himself lying in the hospital bed connected to a myriad of tubes and wires. And then in an instant he awoke and was now back in his corporeal body. After a long and arduous recovery, Jim asked God to take away the addiction that had almost cost him his life. By Christ's Grace he has been clean and sober for three years and counting. Jim now feels he was brought back to reveal his testimony to others struggling with addiction and be the inspiration that leads them to a life of sobriety. Finally, Jim remarked that coming to Kingsway has given him a sense of belonging and acceptance that he has rarely felt in his life, helping to relieve his feelings of loneliness and depression. Like it has for so many others, Kingsway's ministry continues to be a testament to the healing Power of God's Divine Light and Hope.

Encouragers Needed

Calling Christian men to write to inmates thru the Kingsway Encourager program. If you are willing to write please contact Carleen Loveless, coordinator, kingswayoutreach@hotmail.com or call **540-433-5658** and leave a message. This is a safe program.

Kingsway's needs Mentors for the men and women re-entering society. They need someone to help guide them back into a productive way of life.

Kingsway Outreach, Please forgive me for the delay in writing this note of appreciation. Charge it to my head and not my heart. I want you all to know that I very much appreciate all of your love and support over the years. When mail wasn't coming in from family and friends, it came in consistently from you.. My family in Christ. Thank you for all you do and may God continue to use you all for His Glory.

***With Love,
Joseph***

TESTIMONY & THANK YOU NOTES

Kingsway is sharing these stories and Thank You letters to let our supporters know the impact on people's lives. Thank You for giving unto the Lord.

I have planted, Apollos

watered; but God gave the increase.

Corinthian 1:12

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An Inmate's Letter to Louise

Hello Louise,

I hope you are well! It's been a little bit since we've last talked. Think I sent you something back in November. Anyway, I'm just updating you to a new move/address. I'm now at Greenville for a program they would like for me to take. I'm sure you've heard of "SORT" It should be a good move as it will reflect well when I'm released. I will have already done polygraphs and taken the therapeutic courses they will require. Polygraphs are \$350 on the street of which they do two or three, so that will save me a lot! I will be able to provide them with many positive changes. I voluntarily — Praise God! - gave up ALL forms of pornography in 2012. That's when God began to reveal Himself in the Light of "Truth." So many men struggle in that area. Even pastors and Christians, sadly.

Blessings,

Michael

Youth in Trouble

- Surveys show that the majority of young people that end up in prison have been excluded from school
- Left with nothing constructive to do, law-breaking might give them an adrenaline rush and the feeling that they have achieved something (even though it is wrong)



- Abusive and violent parents and broken homes provide a poor role models and leave children unable to recognise acceptable behaviour.
- Criminal activity offers excitement instead of boredom and a feeling of acceptance
- Drugs, gambling, and addiction may be financed through criminal activity

Loneliness, Depression and the Cycle of Addiction

Addiction comes in many forms and has many causes, but one thing remains a constant: it traps a person in a cycle that quickly turns into a downward spiral leading to a rock bottom that, for some people, results in their death. When most folks hear that word, they immediately think of drug abuse, but people can become hopelessly addicted to other things such as gambling, food, shopping – even their cell phones nowadays. The cause for addiction is usually an attempt to fill an empty space in one's soul with an often temporary fix which never seems to solve the real problem. Loneliness, isolation, anxiety and depression are some of the usual culprits. It can get to such an extreme point that a person will continue in their addiction even as their life falls apart around them and they lose everything. That is how powerful the disease of addiction can be. Addressing the underlying problem and finding healthy alternatives to cope with it are really the only ways to “cure” this devastating illness. Ultimately, that emptiness must be filled with a power greater than one's own will. And that is believing in and fully embracing the Healing Power of the Lord.

Wayne Berman

Kingsway's Updates:

Sent out on average 80 to 100 Birthday Cards per Month to Inmates

Sent out 14,95 Valentine's Card to Inmates

Because of Covid-19 few Easter Cards were allowed in Correctional Facilities

20 request for Assistance January-June 2020

Louise has been working from home and has sent out:

Over 450 cards sent out to inmates

Sent out 147 birthday cards in June

Also assisted 10 people with re-entry needs



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In This Issue.....Seeds of Caring

I praise The Lord that he gave me a servant's heart. During this pandemic, I had to have some minor surgery. It was postponed twice and rescheduled for June 22, 2020 which I thought would be a safe time; however, because of going to the hospital, I had to be quarantined for 14 days. I am now in until July 5th, but rather than mopping around; I have been sending devotions that one of my board members writes and emails me. I have an office set up in my bedroom, and I use my dining table for folding and stuffing envelopes. On my computer, I have the names and numbers of all the guys from the prisons that attended our church services, so sending these gives me something to do and also gives them encouragement and hope. I have sent over 450 cards to the inmates at Coffeewood and Augusta Correctional Centers, and now I am receiving letters of thanks from them. Those corresponding back have said they have been in prison for over 30 years and had never gotten any mail. I am also able to keep up with the Kingsway Birthday Cards to inmates. I sent 147 June Birthday cards. It appears that we may be in a position to open the office again the first Tuesday in August. I find it hard trying to help those coming out from a distance; however, we have managed to help several get into programs, housing, clothes, and food. With extra time on the computer, I've found other resources I was not aware of in areas some of the inmates will be returning to soon. Believe it or not, it is time to start preparing for Christmas, so I pray all of you will start thinking about collecting toothpaste, notepads, and pencils for us. Our goal is 6,000 this year.

Stay safe, Louise Jennings

Louise's Corner

There has never been a Christmas since Kingsway started the Apple Tree Project in 1985 that we haven't seen God work in a miraculous way. This year I encountered an Angel. I received a letter from an inmate requesting gifts for her 2 sons for Christmas. She was in jail, the boy's father was in prison. She gave me the guardian, named Angel and a phone number to reach. She failed to give me the boy's names or ages. OK God, how do I handle this? After calling Angel, I found out he was the Godfather of these boys age 12 and 14 and had agreed to take care of them. When I spoke with Angel, he told me he had saved money to get them something, but his car repairs took all his extra money. I gave the information to Pat and Carla to fix Christmas boxes for the boys. When Angel came to pick up the gifts, he shared that the oldest boy was being bullied because he didn't have a backpack or book bag. This was a last minute thing, and the gifts were not wrapped, but wrapping paper, etc. was sent with him for Angel to wrap. I had him check to be sure the gifts were suitable even though they had been prayed over when they were packed. In the box was a backpack for each, a game and a Bible along with a few small stocking stuffers. Angel left happy that the boys got a Bible. He really wanted them to have one as they did attend church. Angel was truly a living Angel.

The Banner is published as a bridge between you, Kingsway's supporters and the hands-on prison and family outreach ministry of Kingsway. The Banner welcomes your comments, suggestions, and questions. Is there something of interest you would like to know about? Let us know. Also remember, the Banner is a means of raising funds to carry on the work at Kingsway.

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