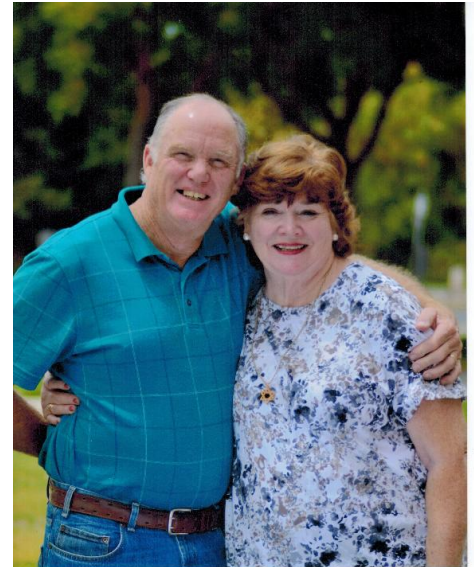


## *“Visit those in Prison” and Beyond*

### **A Time of Transition**

We came to Turlock in the Summer of 2005 to help the leadership in the office of Missionary Gospel Fellowship. Some personnel changes were necessary & we were asked to stay and help fill the need for a time. That “for a time” has lasted 13 years. I was certainly no trained bookkeeper back then, and I am certainly not one now. However, I learned a lot through the years and I did my best to keep the books & to help the missionaries, from the office, with the services they needed to stay on the field. I must admit that I was getting restless “being stuck” in an office but I could not imagine leaving. This past May of 2018, I was asked to resign by the leadership of the Mission. Of course, I was not happy about it, but I had to admit I would have never left on my own. Even if God had been announcing a new open door out there, I was not listening. I’m listening now. Liz has been a wonderful partner in ministry and has encouraged me to stay up here in Turlock even though her own personal ministries came to an end one by one. I will remain in the office until a replacement is located & will do it gladly.



In the recent months, Liz has had to deal with irregular heart beat requiring numerous doctor appointments & treatments to determine the cause. A sleep study was done. Her oxygen level was dropping too low at night. She was prescribed a CPAP machine for sleep-time breathing. As of this day, she feels it is working for her. The irregular heartbeat has returned to regular rhythm. Then it was discovered through a CT-Scan and through follow-up tests and examinations that she had Uterine cancer. We were sent to Stanford Medical Center in Pleasanton, CA where outstanding medical personnel performed a complete hysterectomy, 7/30/2018 removing all that cancerous tissue plus another tiny tumor which was in the left ovary. It too, was cancerous. The latest news 8/16/2018 is that Liz is now cancer-free! Thank you, Lord. You are in control

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of everything & there is No One like You! Wow – Endometrial & Ovarian cancer and now it's all gone!!! Praise The Lord!

### **What's Next?**

We need to **build a team** of people to stand with us who trust & believe in us and who support our passion to reach inmates and parolees who need to be loved, who need to be encouraged, and who need to grow in their daily Christian life.

We offer **Bible college courses**.

We also provide more streamlined lessons called "**Previews**" for those preferring a simpler approach.

We are still available for serving on **Kairos Weekends in prisons** in our area (3 ½ day retreat presenting the Christian life to inmates).

A Christian brother introduced us to a ministry of meeting just-released inmates at the **train station(s)** to greet them and to provide them a **free backpack** to carry their belongings. Great idea, Dave. I hope we get to do that.

We want to reach out in friendship and support to the many **prison chaplains** who serve behind the walls and never get thanked, supported, or helped with their incredibly important job. This "reach out" could be prayer support, letters, visits, and on-site help when the schedules & prison rules allow.

### **We need a circle of friends**

Some of you have been beside us for many years. Thank you for your prayer support and for your money. We hope you will stick with us!

When we came to Turlock, some of our supporters and churches dropped us because they preferred to support us when we worked with inmates full time rather than to support us while we worked in an office helping missionaries get their money. Fortunately, the mission offered an hourly wage. That usually totaled \$2000 per month. When we leave the office, we will lose those funds. Obviously, we need to make up that amount plus more for travel expenses.

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**Would you please ask the Lord if our ministry is something you would like to invest your finances in? Would you allow us to represent you out there in the lives of inmates, parolees, chaplains and other Shepherds of the flock and Christian leaders with whom God puts us in touch?**



We are working on **tri-fold brochures** for distribution to the inmates as allowed by the prison rules. I just finished one on "Despair". Yikes! That was convicting!! I always get ideas for brochures when I go into the prisons and listen to the inmates talk. They may be behind walls & wire, but they share the same needs and frustrations that I have.

**???** But you are asking, "I thought you already did all these things?"

**WE DID!** However, there never was enough time or energy to do it and do it right. We have felt a great frustration seeing what is needed but not being able to offer those helps. Lessons don't get graded and distributed in a timely fashion. The inmates have to wait longer than they should. Flyers don't get written at all. Time is not available to just DROP EVERYTHING and go help with a need. Don't tell anyone but after staring at numbers all day, I've been so tired that I could not find enough energy to do anything that requires my brain. Thank the Lord for the 7 acres that we look after in our spare time. It has been a restful place to recover after a sometimes stressful and very busy day in the office.

**We need our friends to try and commit to us on a monthly basis. That gives us the stability & provisions to not only pay our living bills, but also have the resources for printing costs, postage, office supplies & traveling. There's so much more to tell. We'll get back to you!!**

**Gifts can be sent to: Missionary Gospel Fellowship  
PO Box 1535  
Turlock, CA 95381  
Project 89:**

**Gifts can be given: Personal check through the mail.  
Electronic transaction with your bank  
Automatic debit from your account  
Credit card on our website**

**Why do we do this? Because of Calvary!!! With Love, Bruce & Liz Leary**

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