

## **Ministries**



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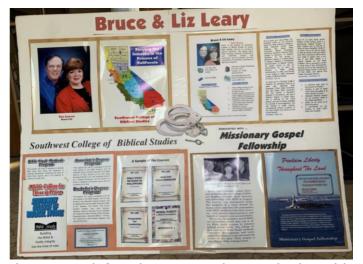
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November 15, 2021

Dear Family & Friends,

The years have certainly passed, haven't they? No, we haven't gotten any older.





At the beginning of our ministry, I remember making this poster describing what we were doing. We started a Bible college and wrote many college courses. In 2003, we became part of Missionary Gospel Fellowship, and we are still part of that family.

We have also enjoyed partnering with Kairos Prison Ministry & Prison Fellowship through the years, teaching courses and seminars. **One of my favorite most recent class experiences** (clear back in early 2020) was the night we taught & discussed the "Spiritual Gifts". The men in the

class were definitely motivated to study the Bible more deeply, and to grow beyond where they were. We later left that classroom; walking back to the car, it hit us that many of these men desperately wanted to know a new direction for their lives – a more specific direction for their lives. Actually, that is what we have purposed to do all through these years – *help them find their purpose*.

P.O. Box 256 Pine Valley, CA 91962



After teaching a night class, Liz & I would drive away, passing the prison on the road, and talking about the awesome class we just had.

**One night**, I (Bruce) had come alone to teach. When leaving, I passed this scene. My eyes teared up and I had to pull over. (I have shared this before.) That happened three weeks in a row. Then, I realized that I was leaving behind men who I loved. Through my life, I have needed to be reminded that my cleverness and personal skills do not make things

happen in the lives of people. 2 Corinthians 5:14 says that God "constrains" (or compels) us, He gives us the burden, he causes us to love the unlovely. **The only purpose that our lives have is the purpose that God BURNS within us.** 

Disappointments Happen

Several months ago, we began making "adjustments" in our prison teaching ministry should we be unable to go back into the

ministry activities due to COVID-related restrictions. Since neither Liz nor I choose to take the COVID vaccine due to previous health issues that could put us at risk, we may be prohibited from entering any prisons. Prison Fellowship just notified us that a vaccine mandate has been announced for all California prisons starting in January 2022. We knew it was coming based on recent State & Federal decisions.

Yes, this definitely hurts. We know God is the "Blessed Controller of all Things." We also know that God can overrule anything that governments might do.



The "adjustments" mentioned above will still focus on <u>TEACHING INMATES</u> **HOW TO STUDY** God's Word, and **HOW TO CREATE** their own Bible studies for their continued growth. We will interact directly with the prison chaplains, making available to them many new Bible lessons that they can receive from us by email, and then print them out for their use. The

response from the over 300 chaplains across the country we have contacted has been very encouraging; they are grateful for the help. For now, this is as close to inmates as we can get. However, helping the chaplains in this way is a great privilege. **God has a purpose in all this.** 

**Some of the lessons already prepared include:** A Closer Look at Philippians, A Verse to Remember. A Warm Up in Philippians & 1 Timothy, The Old Testament At a Glance, Bible Reading For Survival, Just a Thought, My Emergency Numbers, The Struggles That Surround Us, A Closer Look at the Godly, Opening Someone Else's Mail - Philippians, Your Sword on Route 66.



We continue needing your love & support. Thank you for standing with us all through these years with your finances and your prayer support. If this ministry continues to excite you, then, join the team.

Financial support should be sent to: MGF, PO Box 1535, Turlock, CA 95381 (Project 89).

Press CTRL & click link:

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Very Grateful to God & to all of you, Bruce & Liz Leary