



Bruce & Liz Leary

(619) 990-9030 Call or text Bruce (619) 990-9066 Call or text Liz Bruce.leary@gmail.com Kairos11liz@gmail.com

January 15, 2023

Dear Family & Friends,

In my last letter I said, "The **summer** is moving along, isn't it?" Yipes! Summer? Let me rephrase that: "The **winte**r is moving along, isn't it?"



We had an eventful Christmas season. It all started November 11 at my (Bruce) urologist's office. That same night we made a middle-of-thenight run to the ER to treat my urology problems. Two additional ER trips were needed. Liz suffered with me every step of the way. **This Christmas blur** began then and continued through my December 6 surgery. The physical healing is proceeding; my energy level is trying to

return. In the middle of all that, we had a great time with family for Christmas.

Right before the medical challenges occurred, **I was traveling** with the 12 disciples, writing a Bible study for the prison chaplains. It was great spending time with them. <u>You don't</u> believe me? Look toward the right side of the group picture. What a comfort that the Lord lets all kinds of people follow Him.





Last Wednesday night, we finally had the energy and healing to return to Centinela State Prison in Imperial, CA. It's about 65 miles from our house. **We are studying "Making Changes"** in our lives. During our absence, team partner "JP" and the men in the class have been carrying on with wonderful class sessions. As we sat in the back of the room listening to the men share, we saw honest sharing, tender eyes, and soft attitudes all over the room. It was incredible. We are looking forward to next week. **Pray for them as they promise behavior changes to each other, and as they try to reestablish** 

relationships and trust with their families. Lord, use us however You choose in that Wednesday night classroom.



Liz and I want to express our gratitude for **the trust and support you have directed our way.** Not everyone feels the passion to work in the prisons. We get that. But you have trusted us and demonstrated your confidence toward us with monthly financial gifts and faithful prayer.

Basically, with God's help, you are sending us into the prisons to teach them, to love them, to share our time with them, to focus on them for two hours a week. They enjoy it; they need it. Honestly? We need it; we enjoy it. **It is our privilege.** 

P.O. Box 256 Pine Valley, CA 91962

## Check out our new website; it is for the chaplains and it is for you. Click the link below.

www.rememberthose-inprison.org



## A FINAL THOUGHT

A few classes back, one of the students answered my question, "What could I have done to help you and steer you correctly when you were 16 and on the streets?

He answered, <u>"Absolutely nothing"</u>. "I had chosen my way, the wrong way; it was a one-way with no easy possible escape. I had to prove I was tough; I had to

show I could take care of myself; I had to hide any moments of weakness. I had to survive and consequences did not matter."

Driving home, I told Liz in the car how my heart had sunk, how helpless I felt, how desperately I always believed we needed to take Jesus to the streets and rescue the kids. BUT, if they are not going to listen or if they cannot listen, then why bother? BUT WAIT!!

Thank the Lord for the many youth leaders, inner-city churches, and street ministers through the years who walked the streets, loved the kids, and got through to them. THE KIDS LISTENED; THEY RESPONDED; THEY CHANGED.

What about the ones who couldn't listen, couldn't change, wouldn't change back then? They have all gotten older; many went to prison; their lives were/are full of tragedy, rejection, and failure. Where are they now?

THANK YOU, GOD. MANY OF THOSE MEN ARE IN OUR CLASSES IN THE PRISONS. THERE IS STILL HOPE FOR THEM.

## THEY ARE LISTENING NOW!!

## Thank you for standing with us

We love you. Thank you for being on our team. Some of us go in; some of us pray; some of us give funds for the task. Here's the link for giving financially: <u>Partner With Us - Remember Those In Prison</u> (rememberthose-inprison.org)

Bruce & Liz Leary