



# Christ Behind the Wall

Prison Ministries

A "Life-Changing" Study for the Incarcerated

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## QUIPS FROM INSIDE

“Dear Christ Behind The Wall Supporters,

There is a saying, ‘Forget yourself for others and others will not forget you.’ This is what CBTW prison ministry does week-after-week. They go out of their way to forget themselves and go out of their way to remember those who are in prisons.

As a prisoner myself, I can testify that we are deeply grateful for this ministry of love that the CBTW team brings. They teach us the Word in words and in action. The simple fact that they reach inside the walls of prisons to teach the un-clean of ‘society’ is more love than we deserve.

However, because these men are filled with Christ’s Spirit, they only see men that need God, and because of this, those that these men touch become unforgettable to all of us. Forever etched on our minds as the mentors and examples of the Loving Gospel.

So I beg all of you—yes, beg—that you find it in your hearts and budgets to support the work of the men of CBTW. Thank you, from all of us in prisons.

Adrian Torres, E Yard, Corcoran/SATF Prison

"Christ Behind The Wall exists to disciple the incarcerated with life-changing classes, based on The Word of God, to deepen their relationship with, and strengthen their faith in Jesus Christ."

**“Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners...” Hebrews 13:3**

## NEVER CEASING TO BE AMAZED!!

## ECONOMIC CHAOS

We are amazed: when we get a Christmas card from prisoners, as they only receive two cards to send to loved ones.

We are amazed: when we receive appreciation letters from the prisoners, as expressed by this month's "Quips From Inside" portion of the Newsletter.

But we are really amazed at the men's appreciation for CBTW's ministry, when we receive contributions from them to the ministry. We have two incarcerated men presently contributing to this ministry; one by a family member, and one who actually tithes off his "books" (a prison account that loved ones contribute to in order to help one get some of the necessities they need).

Thank you so very much for your heart and appreciation, men!!

The budget crisis is effecting California's prisons and jails. We've been hearing for quite awhile that the Governor was thinking of reducing the California State Prison system by 27,000 prisoners, either through release, sending to Arizona prisons or to the local jails throughout California.

Interesting...as Fresno County Jail is also suffering from the city's budget crunch. The Sheriff's Department is laying off jail officers and are planning on releasing 500 prisoners.

The floor I have classes on is already releasing people and should be empty by February. It is also rumored that floors 3 & 5 will also be reduced. Jason's floor appears to be safe. We don't know if this is permanent or temporary, but prayer is definitely needed as I await my new jail assignment.

## DECEMBER ACTIVITY

December is a little bit lighter month due to the holidays, so activity was down a little bit. Bill, Jason and myself were able to hold twelve classes, which 207 students attended. It amuses us that even when D Yard is locked down, it seems to always go back to normal in time for my Tuesday night class. Praise the Lord!!

We gave you a partial list of the yearly activity, but here is the final activity report for 2009:

153 Classes 2,576 Students 22 Worship Services 1,099 Worshippers

## PRAYER CONCERNS

That God will bless our efforts to discover volunteers with the heart for prison/jail ministry, and we will be able to train them and get them placed without difficulty.

That God will bless us with the funds of \$750.00 to cover an unexpected filing fee for the next phase of the non-profit corporation filing paperwork process.



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