

# “WALKING IN THE LIGHT” Kings Crossing Prison Ministries

A NEWS REVIEW & EDUCATIONAL TOOL OF JAIL-PRISON MINISTRIES IN CHURCHES OF CHRIST  
Buck Griffith, Editor

“Helping make the world better and safer teaching Christ to those in prison”

## UPDATE: ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

The first month of our Annual Fund Drive closed UP by a whopping \$6 over October last year! Obviously, we need to improve in November. Our first objective is to reach the \$35,000 matching funds goal. Then, we will reach to exceed \$100,000!



We never take anything for granted and especially fighting this Covid-19 pandemic. While some are struggling more, others have been richly blessed and will pass them along. In the end, the will of God gets done.

Our task remains the same: do as much as we can with what God places within our hands. More doors are open constantly. In the last week, we have had opportunities to help Christian families seeking assistance with young adult addicts. Please read the data linked to success in this area on the back page. To God be the glory!

Be sure to designate the “Annual Fund Drive” on checks if you want it to be applied to the *matching fund* offer. We will let you know this time next month on progress made!

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY  
**47<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL JAIL & PRISON  
MINISTRY WORKSHOP**  
JUNE 2021  
Midwest Church of Christ  
2115 Garland Avenue  
Jerry Stephenson, Director (812) 207-7156

## Post Covid-19 Strategy

Major changes will be seen when “live” in-prison *NewLife Behavior* classes resume. These are highly effective materials to help participants transform negative behavior to positive. An average class begins with 30 students.

Extensive use will be made of English and Spanish versions of two Bible study-by-mail series – “There IS a Better Way” and the *Prisoners of Hope*. The aim of both is to powerfully present the Gospel.

One curriculum seeks to transform conduct (character) while the other aims to translate souls from one state (lost) to another.

## MEMORIAL & HONOR GIFTS

“Memorial” gifts express comfort to those having lost loved ones. It matters not if the loss was yesterday or 50 years ago. It lifts our spirits to know one *so loved* is not forgotten. “Honor” gifts show gratitude for those held in high esteem. It is like *giving flowers* while the person lives. Generosity in this way offers eternal hope to others. As we share the knowledge of gifts made, others learn what we are doing. Thank you for being thoughtful!

### Received from:

April Askew  
M/M Frank Maxey  
M/M Buck Griffith  
M/M Dan Burleson  
M/M Charles Ogden  
M/M Frank Maxey  
M/M Buck Griffith

### In Loving Memory of:

Bonita Mayfield  
Fernando Capo  
Fernando Capo  
David Gasiorowski  
Lorraine Cloud  
Lorraine Cloud  
Lorraine Cloud

M/M Dan Burleson  
Mary Parks  
Mary Parks  
M/M Buck Griffith

Retta Stephens  
Kenneth Daniel  
Lois Daniel  
C. M. Dodd, III



## More Ways to Receive Your Newsletter

Receive “Walking in the Light” newsletters (1) Through the U.S. Postal Service, (2) go to [www.kingscrossingprisonministries.org](http://www.kingscrossingprisonministries.org), or (3) Send your Email and to send it electronically. We receive requests for copies, but you can print directly from the website or your email. You may email us at [kcprisonministries@gmail.com](mailto:kcprisonministries@gmail.com).

## ANOTHER LOOK AT SUBSTANCE ABUSE & RECOVERY

Buck Griffith

Christians Against Substance Abuse (CASA) is now thirty-two years old, beginning in 1988 in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) is *fifty-three years* older, starting in Akron, Ohio in 1935 by Bill Wilson and Dr. Bob. As opposed to today, students of AA history tell of its early emphasis on God and the Bible.

I would like to share a few personal observations on recovery.

One approaching addiction recovery with a spiritual foundation based on a meaningful relationship with God and a decent knowledge of Bible fundamentals is at a distinct advantage. Step Two (“coming to believe God can restore sanity”) is not nearly such a long journey. And Step Three (“turning my will and life over to God’s care”) is as *natural* a return as Peter after his repetitious denials.

The stranger one is to the God of the Bible, the more difficult the spiritual recovery process.

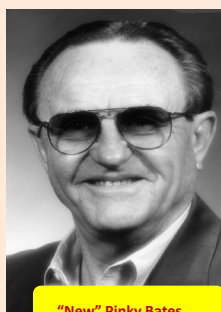
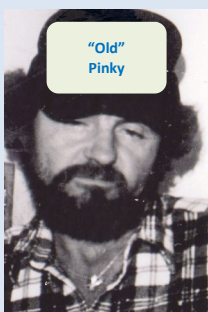
It that case, it is no wonder that “God” may be a *doorknob*. In time – with diligent effort and individual persistence – the distance can be made up. However, this person’s early progress is more “step-dependent.” Thus, he or she is a greater source of immediate help to others lacking spiritual history.

He does not come quoting scripture because it is not his *style* and he knows little. His thoughts are “step-oriented” *first* and “Bible-related” *secondly*. Maintaining sobriety plus learning the Bible swiftly and thoroughly is not common nor easy. Consider the advantage enjoyed by April Askew, Pinky Bates, Richard Shaffer, Don Umphrey, and many others . . . they did not need someone to first convince them of the inspiration of the Bible or that there are two main divisions known as the *Old* and “New” Testaments.

It is significant to note that they entered the recovery process with 100% assurance that sobriety pleases God, “Providence” was on their side, and He is eager to help! Yes, like Peter, they must overcome embarrassment, guilt, and shame, but . . . compared to the *doorknob*, ten thousand angels are perched and ready to leap into action! This person has a deeper and more powerful source to draw on when helping others with strong spiritual histories.

The biggest error of “Non-Addict Christians” is pushing the Bible to “convert” the addict speedily. He is eager to escape guilt and may quickly jump in the baptistry but do not be shocked when asked to “do it again” later. Hopefully, we are past thinking that when we baptize a person with a “drinking problem” – *problem solved*. Personally, I refrain from seriously discussing the *weather* with one who drunk or *high*. If under the influence and a *lover*, he agrees with me that the sun is shining in a hail-storm. If a *fighter* in this state, *World War III* is launched. Later, in more sober moments, we will get started with Step One. No matter one’s spiritual background, recovery remains a journey.

All this is said to offer hope to *Christian* families. If you have an addicted family member that has been taught and understands the Bible basics, he or she has a spiritual foundation. You should be encouraged. Proverbs 22:6 remains true. One who strays but knows where “home” is, possesses an *inner compass* that provides an advantage to direct a troubled soul in the darkest night or in a Category 5 hurricane. *Never give up!*



**Kings Crossing Prison Ministries** is overseen by the shepherds, Kings Crossing Church of Christ, 5901 Yorktown Boulevard, Corpus Christi, Texas 78414 (Steve Brashear, Ron Cardwell, Robert Illgen, Stephen Johnston, Rick Legvold, Jack North, and Richard Scanio).

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