

and beyond

# LIBERTY BEHIND BARS MINISTRY

Sending Church: Black Creek Baptist Church

APRIL/MAY 2022 NEWSLETTER

*The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound (Isa 61:1)*

*Psalms: 34:8*

*O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.*

Greetings! We pray that all of you had a blessed Resurrection Day! Things have been quite busy since our last prayer letter! God has been so good to our family and the ministry!

Since the Lord showed us that we were to be full time in the ministry (with Amy resigning her position), the Lord had definitely kept us busy with traveling. We had the blessed opportunity to travel to Texas in January, various places in New York in February, and in Maine during the months of March/April! The Lord has opened more doors in new churches and with attending Mission's Conferences. It was during these trips that we made more contacts with new churches and have set up dates to present the ministry. We also had a few churches take LBB on for support! Glory to God for it! We have been invited to another Mission's Conference this month and look forward to presenting the ministry! We have several other preaching opportunities that are coming up this summer as well. We look forward to seeing where the Lord will send us next!

## **OFFICE UPDATE:**

We were blessed in that we were allowed to have an LBB office at our home church (Black Creek Baptist Church, NY). We had a fundraiser to generate funds to refurbish one of the rooms. God's people did **NOT** let us down! We were overwhelmed with the generosity of many churches and individuals who helped with this new venture! We were all set to move everything in at the end of February - when mother nature had different plans. Unfortunately our church was hit with some major flooding. Fortunately, most of the LBB office was fine - except the flooring and trim (Praise the Lord)! We are waiting for the flooring to be completed (hopefully within the next couple weeks) and we will be able to move everything in! Hope to post finished pictures on LBB Facebook when done!

## **BIBLES UPDATE:**

For close to a year now we have been searching for more KJV bibles to purchase. As many as you know, we like to give people good quality KJV bibles; not paperback. With the increase in US postage - we needed to find bibles that were decently priced. But God... He led us to a NY distributor and we were able to buy 500 bibles! Now we have developed a relationship with a distributor for future purchases! To top that off...during our visits to various churches, we have been able to recoup the price of those 500 bibles! God's people are the most faithful, generous people!



## **WEBSITE UPDATE:**

We were blessed while we were in Maine that an individual (Matt McFarland) wanted to design and manage a website for LBB! Please visit us at [www.libertybehindbars.com](http://www.libertybehindbars.com). Many individuals that we work with ask that we and our church family pray for them. So, we have created a page that we keep updated with these prayer requests. We also have included a way where people can donate to help an inmate receive a bible. We do receive PayPal through the website - but understand many still want to use snail mail/checks. This is perfectly fine as well! We just wanted to make it available to those who like to use technology!

## **DONATED ITEMS AND VOLUNTEERS:**

When we send in a bible to a man or woman behind bars, we include a "packet." This packet includes information about LBB, testimonies, tracts, KJV Helps (document that helps people understand Thee/Thou and other punctuation), daily bible reading, and a welcome letter. All of these documents need to be printed and folded for each bible. This has been quite a big task for us, however, we have had many people ask to volunteer and help! We have had families from "sister" churches and many individuals from our home church help with folding and getting bibles ready to be sent out! This has helped us tremendously! We were also provided a machine that folds paper by Evangelist Tim McVey - he got a great deal at an auction! We just have to figure out how to use it - but praise the Lord for it! We were also given an office size copier machine from Pastor Fenton and the Seneca Falls Church family - what a blessing!!

When we travel, we now have an volunteer that ships out bibles for us! This truly has been a blessing as either we would need to travel with boxes of bibles or wait until we return to ship them out!

Shout out to Mrs. Ford and the LBB HELPS ministry out of BCBC!!!



One of the biggest parts of LBB is responding to bible questions, prayer requests, biblical counseling, and other general communications through emails. We are currently on 5 different internet platforms and work with individuals in over 70 different cities, in 14 different states within the US (and continually growing)! We have had some volunteers to help with these emails and are grateful for their help! We typically receive approximately over 10 emails a day! LBB is a 7 day a week ministry!

Another aspect of the ministry is mailing in a personal devotional once a month to those behind bars (and to those released, and family members). Currently we are up to 370 devotionals that we send! That is at least 4 rolls of stamps each month (\$242!) These men and women love to receive this each month as it encourages their study of the Word of God and their personal walk with the Lord. We thank our volunteer that folds each one, puts in the envelopes, seals, and mails these out each month!

THANK YOU to all the people who have helped in one way or another with LBB!



**WOMEN MINISTRY:**

With Amy being home, we are now able to expand the ministry with working with women in jails/prisons! This really has exploded and these women are hungry for the Word of God and wanting a stronger relationship with Him! We have had several visits (both in person and through video visits) with a few woman and not only did they say they were blessed, but so were we!

**OTHER LBB SUPPORT:**

Praise the Lord that we have made contacts with people who have written good, sound KJV books to provide to the men and women we work with! Some have been donated, others we have had to purchase. Many of the men and women love to read and study these books with their KJV bible we send them. Year to date we have been able to spend close to \$1000 with purchasing/mailling them in!

**STATISTICS:**

**YTD:** we have mailed in over 230 KJV bibles (\$1100)  
Since 2016 close to 3000 KJV bible given out  
**YTD:** Email/video visit costs (\$1200)  
Close to 400 individuals we are working with throughout the US  
Over 300 bible packages have been put together and ready for distribution  
500 bibles purchased (\$3600)  
PRAISE THE LORD - HE HAS PROVIDED!!!



**GET INVOLVED!**

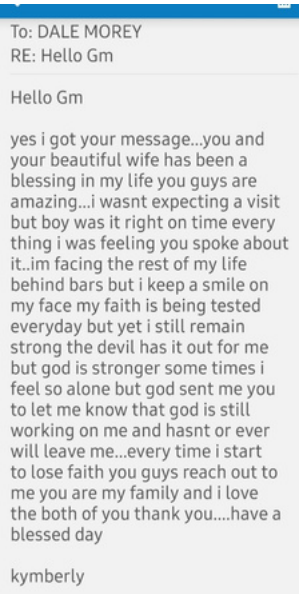
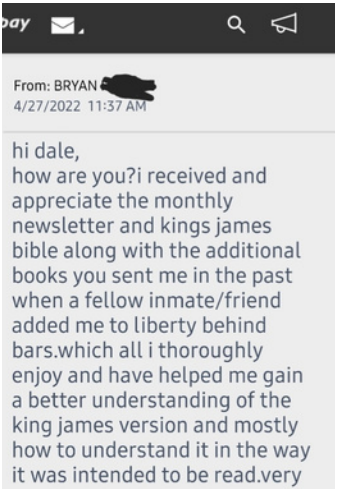
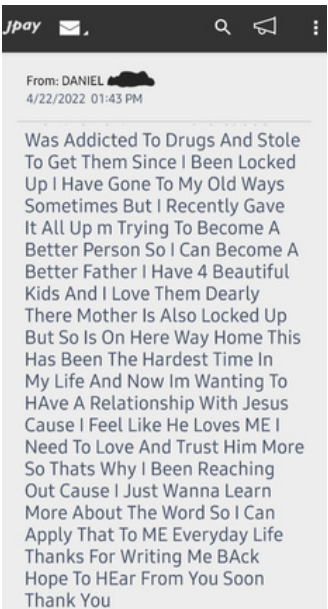
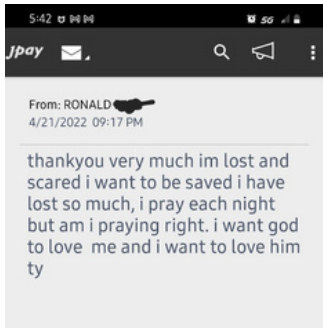
Become a Pen Pal through email!  
Contact us for more information!!

Support our Bible ministry by sending a donation that would cover the cost to purchase a KJV bible and mail to an individual behind bars. The default amount is \$12; however, any amount you decide to send will be much appreciated and put to excellent use!

***Prayer Requests:***

- Pray that we have more opportunities to present the ministry to churches and that they would partner with LBB. We currently are close to 40% support! God has blessed and we pray this number continues to rise!
- Luke will be graduating in May and has been accepted at Alfred State in the Auto-Mechanic program. This will be a big adjustment to our family. He will be commuting from home, but he will not be traveling with us during the year.
- Opportunity at the Monroe County Jail to ministry on Saturdays in their HALT program - this would give me the opportunity to meet with a group of men/women and hold bible studies!

***Testimonies***



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