

## ***Journey to Hope: Transforming Lives Behind Bars***

At Prison Mission Association (PMA), we believe that no one is beyond the reach of God's love and grace. Every day, we witness lives transformed behind bars as individuals embark on a journey—a journey from despair to hope, from brokenness to restoration, and from captivity to spiritual freedom. This journey isn't just about a change in circumstances; it's about a change in heart, powered by the living Word of God.

### **1. The Starting Point: A Place of Brokenness**

#### **Story of Transformation**

"John entered prison angry, hopeless, and estranged from his family. He described his first days in solitary confinement as 'the darkest moments of my life.' But it was there, in the silence and despair, that a fellow inmate handed him one of our PMA Bible lessons. Skeptical at first, John began to read—and something changed." 2 Corinthians 5:17: *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."*

### **2. The Turning Point: Encountering Hope**

#### **Role of PMA's Ministry**

PMA becomes the turning point for inmates. When inmates enroll in our Bible correspondence courses, they begin to see the Scriptures not just as ancient writings, but as a living guide to a hopeful future. Many tell us that receiving handwritten notes from their mentors is the first time they've felt truly seen and cared for. It is the moment they trust in Christ as savior and Lord that makes an eternal difference in their lives.

### **3. The Destination: Hope That Lasts**

#### **Ongoing Discipleship**

PMA equips inmates to become spiritual leaders, helping them grow and share their hope with others in prison. "Our courses don't just stop with the basics of faith. We provide in-depth Bible training that equips inmates to lead Bible studies, mentor fellow prisoners, with the goal to plant micro churches within the walls of their facility."

#### **Testimony**

*"Because of PMA, I now lead a Bible study group of eight men. Every week, we dive into God's Word together, and it's changed the entire atmosphere of our block. We've become a family."* Romans 15:13: *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."*

### **4. Partnering in the Journey**

#### **Call to Action for prayer and support**

"This journey to hope isn't possible without you. Your prayers, encouragement, and financial support are what

enable us to send Bible lessons, mentor inmates, and raise up spiritual leaders behind bars. Each dollar you give, each prayer you offer, is an investment in eternal transformation."

#### **We give God the Glory for what He has done!**

"This year alone, PMA has enrolled over 823 new students in our Bible courses, and 3,198 new students in the last three years. The ripple effects are being felt in prisons across the country."

### **5. Looking Ahead: The Road Forward**

#### **Future Goals**

We had our PMA strategic planning retreat and set some exciting goals to accomplish in the next five years.

As we look ahead, we dream of expanding to reach even more prisons, equipping new leaders, and planting micro churches where none exist. **Our goal is to double our number of students and number of lessons we process in the next five years.** This means 20% increase for each year over the next five years to reach that goal. We see a future where every inmate has the opportunity to experience the hope found in Jesus Christ.

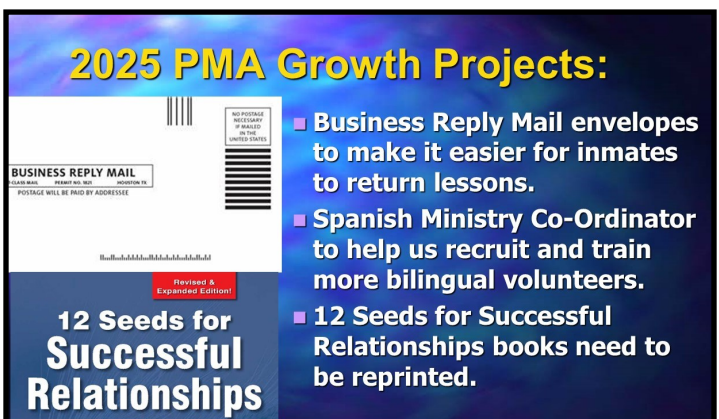
#### **Scriptural Encouragement**

Philippians 1:6: *"And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."*

**You, your prayers, support and volunteering help us as part of our PMA team to make this all possible! THANK YOU, for making a difference in so many lives.**

Together, we are not just changing lives; we are changing eternities. Thank you for walking with us on this journey to hope. It is a joy to see how many women and men go from brokenness to transformation through the gospel of the Grace of God!

We have enclosed a letter explaining our 2025 PMA Projects.



**2025 PMA Growth Projects:**

- Business Reply Mail envelopes to make it easier for inmates to return lessons.
- Spanish Ministry Co-Ordinator to help us recruit and train more bilingual volunteers.
- 12 Seeds for Successful Relationships books need to be reprinted.



## Salutations from Simone Port Orchard, WA

This drawing was done by one of our students, Randy G.



In some ways this drawing is a little sad, because the artist is stuck inside with no way to reach the outside world. I like to view this as hopeful. We are all in a prison of sorts, we are held back by sin, by regrets, by fear. But this drawing is a reminder that better things wait for us. Only Jesus can set us free. Will we choose to stay imprisoned or will we allow God to open the door?

I am constantly amazed and inspired by our students. I love their wonder at God's salvation and curiosity in studying God's Word. Some students question everything. (Providing us a chance to research some interesting subjects.) With Cal Bodeutsch's help, we have answered many questions, like "Who were the Nephilim?" "What is the Kingdom of God vs. the Kingdom of Heaven," or "Why are there 4

Gospels?"

What I really enjoy are the comments from some of our students, like Henry L. who said "*I found this set of lessons very insightful on how we should live our lives for Christ. As I study Romans more, I feel closer to God as well as a renewed Spirit. I also see I still have much to learn. As I re-read the book, I gain new insight I did not see the first time. It amazes me how I get more understanding going over the verses and pondering the message. I eagerly look forward to my next set of lessons.*"

Thank you for your prayers and support to help share the love of God with these inmates.

Blessings,

Simone Montfort,  
Operations Manager, PMA

## Praise and Prayer Points

### Praise God for answers to Prayer:

- ◆ Praise the Lord for Simone Montfort who is doing a terrific job as our Operations Manager at the PMA home office.
- ◆ Praise God for many new BCF hubs since our last newsletter. We have **over 62 BCF regional hubs now around the country** and 28 countries overseas. The newest one is in India.

### Prayer

- ◆ Pray for our need for **bilingual volunteers** and a Spanish ministry coordinator in WA.
- ◆ **For God to call key leaders** within the prisons to help distribute/correct lessons and plant prison churches.
- ◆ Pray for Pastor Dwight as he leads PMA and Bethesda Church. He is praying for some young leaders whom he can mentor to help with PMA and at the church.

- ◆ The expansion of our PMA board with leaders from across the country.
- ◆ The expansion of our PMA staff to help handle our growth and vision.

**Coming Soon!**

**Please contact us to visit your church!**

**Dec. 7, 10 am Iglesia Cristiana Fe, Esperanza y Amor en Jesucristo, Inc. Le Sueur, MN**  
**Jan. 4, 10 am Open Door Latino Church, Minneapolis, MN**  
**Feb. 1, 10 am Iglesia Cristiana Remanente Escogido por Gracia, St Paul, MN**  
**May 2-3, 2025, Correctional Ministries and Chaplains Association (CMCA) Summit, Northwood Church, Longwood, FL.**  
**Sat. May 17, 12 noon, PMA Volunteer appreciation picnic at PMA home office, Port Orchard, WA. Then 2 pm PMA board meeting**  
**June 2-5, 2025, Grace Gospel Fellowship Pastors Conference**

**12 Seeds™**

**We so thankful to have the 12 Seeds resources available at PMA.** We have a correspondence course based on *12 Seeds Growing in Love* that will help students and families apply the Biblical principles to transform their relationships.

Please visit the 12 Seeds Leader Library at our website. You will also find free downloadable tools you can use in Bible Studies, and discussions.

**You can donate to help fund the printing of more books by donating and earmark it "Book Fund."**

Subscribe to our

**YouTube Channel**

[www.youtube.com/prisonmission](http://www.youtube.com/prisonmission)

December 2024

Dear Friend and Ministry Partner,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

I am writing to you with an exciting opportunity to partner with Prison Mission Association (PMA) in advancing our ministry to reach even more lives behind bars. **God has opened doors for us to continue sharing the hope and transformation of the gospel, but we need your support to take these next steps forward for 2025.**



**1. Making it easier for inmates to grow in their faith:**

We are expanding our efforts to provide **Business Reply Mail envelopes** for inmates. This initiative will remove a significant barrier, making it simpler for them to return their Bible lessons for feedback and discipleship. Many inmates deeply desire to grow in their knowledge of God's Word but face practical challenges in mailing their completed studies. These prepaid envelopes will encourage even more participation and spiritual growth.

**2. Reaching Spanish-speaking inmates with the gospel:**

With an increasing number of Spanish-speaking inmates, the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. To meet this need, we are seeking to hire a **Spanish Ministry Coordinator** who will focus on recruiting and training bilingual volunteers. This will enable us to multiply our impact by offering Bible lessons and spiritual guidance in Spanish, ensuring these inmates receive the message of hope in their heart language.

**3. Publishing life-transforming resources:**

We need to publish more *12 Seeds for Successful Relationships* books, as our current supply is nearly depleted. These books have been instrumental in transforming lives and families, equipping inmates with biblical principles for building healthy relationships. Additionally, we have new **Spanish translations** of *12 Seeds Growing in Love* and the *12 Seeds Journal Workbook* that need to be printed and distributed to expand our outreach.

All three of these projects are vital to PMA's mission of equipping inmates with the Word of God and helping them experience true transformation in Christ.

**How you can help:** We need to raise **\$15,000** to fund these critical initiatives. Your gift of \$25, \$50, \$100, or any amount God places on your heart will make a tangible difference in reaching more souls for Christ.

- **\$25** could provide 25 prepaid envelopes for returning Bible lessons.
- **\$50** could help train a new bilingual volunteer to minister in Spanish.
- **\$100** could help us publish 25 *12 Seeds* books or their Spanish translations.

You can donate securely online at [www.prisonmission.org/give](http://www.prisonmission.org/give) or mail your gift to: PMA, PO Box 2300, Port Orchard, WA 98366

Your support is an investment in eternal transformation. Together, we can make it easier for inmates to engage with God's Word, provide resources for building strong relationships, and extend the reach of the gospel to Spanish-speaking inmates.

**Thank you for your faithful prayers and generous support.** We are grateful for your partnership in this life-changing ministry.

Keep praying, working and loving others to Christ! I Cor. 15:58

Pastor Dwight Anderson, PMA Director, 612-423-3457 [dwight@prisonmission.org](mailto:dwight@prisonmission.org)  
"Reaching Prisoners for Christ"

**P.S. Please consider sharing this need with your church or friends who have a heart for prison ministry. Every gift helps us bring hope and the love of Jesus to those who need it most.**