



CHAPLAINCY MINISTRIES

U.S. MISSIONS
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

— EXTRAORDINARY —

YOU WON'T BELIEVE THE PLACES
WE GO WITH THE GOSPEL.



THE VIEW FROM HERE

CHAPLAINCY
PROFILES

Bible-Based
Teachings
Transform
Lives of
Inmates

CHAPLAINCY PROFILES
JOHN PAGE



CHAPLAIN

ALVIN WORTHLEY

POINT OF VIEW



Those who serve in Assemblies of God U.S. Missions Chaplaincy Ministries are working every day to bring the gospel to all people in every walk of life –

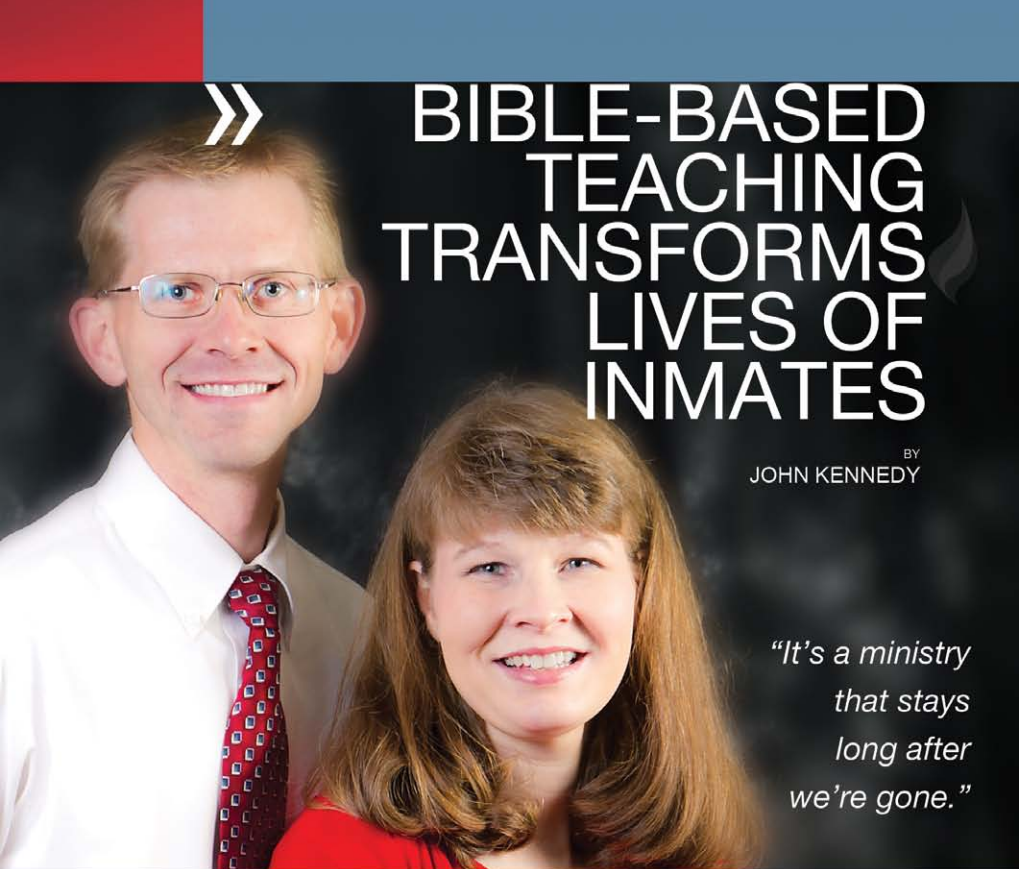
but the way they are accomplishing this might surprise you.

Chaplains are ministering to the lost and hurting in hospitals, prisons, military barracks, corporations, and even at places such as bike rallies, rodeos, racetracks and disaster sites. When ministering in such places, the hood of a HUMVEE or the table in a breakroom suddenly becomes a pulpit or a place to serve communion. Sometimes pastoral counseling takes place on a Harley or in the belly of an aircraft carrier. For chaplains, ministry opportunities change almost every day.



Each day thousands of people who have never committed their lives to Christ are passing into eternity. As long as people are hurting and yearning for more than this life has to offer, there will be a need for qualified chaplains who are willing and able to take Christ's message of love and hope to those who are spiritually lost.





BIBLE-BASED TEACHING TRANSFORMS LIVES OF INMATES

BY
JOHN KENNEDY

*“It’s a ministry
that stays
long after
we’re gone.”*

John Page of Little Rock, Ark., is an Assemblies of God U.S. missionary involved in a prison ministry that reaches those behind bars.

One of the main roles of the AG chaplain is to facilitate Institute for Basic Life Principles (IBLP) seminars, in which inmates in chapel settings are biblically instructed over several days on a variety of topics including anger management, marriage relationships, spiritual gifts and raising children.

Page also trains a host of volunteers from across the country, supplying DVD and workbook materials so laypeople can go to local jails to conduct IBLP seminars. Through networking, the ministry, pioneered by AG Chaplain Bob Holyfield in the late 1990s, has spread to 85 institutions in 26 states.

“These volunteers multiply our efforts and are an extension of our ministry,” Page says. “The seminars are educational and discipleship oriented. It’s good biblical teaching. Inmates learn a lot about God’s Word.”

Page’s secondary responsibility is to help establish long-term faith-based programs behind bars.

“It’s a residential discipleship program that takes place inside the prison barracks where the inmates live,” Page explains. “It’s a ministry that stays long after we’re gone.”



Prison officials in 15 states and 30 institutions have invited the Little Rock-based IBLP team to establish a faith-focused pod. The inmates, who don't have to be Christian, volunteer to join and are told it won't reduce their sentences. Once approved, participants move into a designated dormitory together and must attend Scripture-focused classes three hours a day, five days a week, for six months. Topics include establishing good character, managing finances and the teachings of Jesus. Classes are taught by lay volunteers trained by IBLP chaplain staff. At some prisons, the program has been operating for eight years. Page, a Central Bible College graduate who became an AG youth pastor in Beebe, Ark., has been a commissioned chaplain since 2001. Two years earlier, in his morning devotions, Page sensed God calling him to a different kind of ministry when he meditated on 1 Kings 18:36-37, a passage in which the prophet Elijah, before confronting the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel,



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beseeches the Lord to turn hearts back to Him. When three people out of the blue, including Holyfield, subsequently urged Page to get involved in prison ministry, his new direction became clear.

Originally from the Bentonville, Ark., area, Page has been married to his wife, Tracy, for 19 years. Tracy homeschools their six children, who range in age from 3 to 15. In his spare time during the past two years, Page has been in the process of constructing a home debt-free with the help of his father-in-law, a skilled builder.

Page says he finds the Bible-teaching aspect of seminars particularly rewarding. The efforts go beyond the almost daily preaching services conducted in some correctional facilities.

"This is largely about discipleship where guys and ladies ask questions and learn God's Word," says Page. "They get excited and inspired. Many say, 'If I'd known this when I was young, I wouldn't be in prison.' Troublemakers are transformed." Faith-based programs make a noticeable impact on inmate behavior. Dorms in which IBLP courses are taught routinely have less violence, and fewer drug and alcohol problems compared to general prison population living quarters.



“Many wardens tell me they wish the whole prison operated like this one dorm,” Page says. “Not all come to Christ, but many do make a commitment.”



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A SIGHT TO BEHOLD: THE VIEW TOGETHER

Partner with Chaplaincy to Reveal Jesus to a World in Need



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endorsed U.S. missionary.

He is able to minister as a correc-
tional chaplain because of the
generous support of people who
believe in the work God is doing
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THE
VIEW
FROM
HERE

BY THE NUMBERS

AROUND 3 MILLION PEOPLE are incarcerated in the United States—most do not have a personal relationship with Jesus.

AMERICA HAS 7,000 hospitals that average 970,000 patients per day.

NEARLY 3 MILLION U.S. military active duty and reservists operate from more than 820 installations in over 135 countries around the world.

THERE ARE OVER 9 MILLION active bikers in America.

THE UNITED STATES is second only to Asia in the worldwide frequency of natural disasters.



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