



El Faro de Santidad

# Lighthouse Holiness Ministries

*Carrying the Gospel of Christ to the prisons of México*

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Greetings from our corner of The Lord's field!

The Lord had moved in a precious way, and I closed my eyes to give Him thanks after my having just finished preaching. When I opened my eyes prepared to make the call to prayer, my heart was elated to see that the altar was already full. Inmates were pouring their hearts out to God. I would love to tell you that the services have always been this way, but that would simply not be true. However, over the past several months, we have seen a steady increase in the number of inmates who have come to the Lord and who are seeking a deeper walk with Him.

In this newsletter, we want to share with you a little about one of the things helping to make such a difference in the lives of these men and women -- Bible Studies. In addition to preaching and teaching in the prison churches and counseling and witnessing to anyone willing to listen, the weekly Bibles Studies that we deliver have been instrumental in changing so many lives. The studies are designed to assist those who are doing them to focus their undivided attention on exactly what is being said as they read God's Word. Men have given their lives to the Lord and have been delivered from drug addiction simply by reading the Word of God and allowing the Lord to speak to their hearts. Let me share with you a letter that was recently given to us by Kristiana, one of the inmates. She gave her life to the Lord some time back and has been on fire ever since. Kristiana speaks English so here is her testimony in her own words:

*I'm so grateful, today, for the Bible Studies Pastor Gary brings to us to do. They have really made a difference in my life. Before, I felt alone, almost dead-like, hopeless, like there was no need to continue in this life. Then I started doing the Bible Studies and it just somehow gave me hope for something better in life. And the more I do the studies, each week, the more I am learning and the more I want to learn; the more joy I feel. I actually wake up smiling looking forward to the day now; all because Pastor Gary refused to give up on me. He always brings my studies to me in English so I don't lose out on the opportunity to learn more about the Bible and study the Scriptures, for a better understanding and guidance in every day life. I try to apply the Scriptures to my life daily, and it truly works! It has made such a wonderful difference in my life. Pastor Gary, thank you for not giving up on me.*

Kristiana Gonzalez Tenorio—Cedes (Penal 2) Reynosa



Over the years we have received and saved countless letters like this. Perhaps we should have shared them more often but haven't done so for fear of leaving a wrong impression. However, we are thrilled to see how God has used the Bible Studies in changing so many lives, and we have chosen to focus on that part of the work in this newsletter. In addition to their spiritual value which is, of course, our emphasis, the Studies have a surprising secondary benefit. They are accepted by the government of Mexico for the inmates' "beneficios" (time off for good behavior). The "Certificates of Completion" the inmates receive show that they have applied themselves in continuing their education. The penal system considers this a benefit not only for the inmates themselves but also for the betterment of society.

## Reacquainted with an Old Friend

We have been ministering in the prisons of Santa Adelaida and Reynosa now for approximately 20 years and have seen the Lord do wondrous things. The man who founded and built the church in Santa Adelaida was an inmate from Guatemala named Guillermo Castillo. He had been a backslider but returned to the Lord while incarcerated. He then established and pastored the prison church. We worked with him in the prison for several years before his release in 2004. We ultimately lost contact with him. It would be a very long story to explain here how we got reconnected, but suffice it to say “*It was a God thing.*”

Guillermo has family living in Maryland, and we found out he was there with his parents. We were both glad to get reacquainted by phone, but what he told me definitely came as a surprise. He laughed and said, “*Brother Gary, you may not believe this, but right now on my mother’s table are a few of your studies in Exodus.*” Saints, the studies she had were Guillermo’s from 14 years ago! He went on to tell me that they were pioneering a Spanish church in that area and were using the few studies that they had in working with the people. Needless to say, we shipped them the complete studies from Genesis to Revelation. We will be staying in contact and trying to assist them in any way possible.

## Shaolin Continues to Serve the Lord in Mexico

Perhaps you remember Shaolin the “ZETA” who gave his life to the Lord in the prison of Santa Adelaida. He immediately started doing the Bible Studies and had nearly completed the four year course in six months prior to his release. Although we were expecting it because we saw how God was using him in the prison and knew that God had a work for him outside the prison, his release was nothing short of a miracle. After arriving home, one of the first things he did was to request Bible Studies for himself, as well as his wife and daughters.

However, it didn’t stop there. Shaolin has started preaching and the Lord is using him in a wonderful way. Due to his life and testimony (news reports can be found on the internet), his impact on the lives of so many is astounding. He has joined up with a local church for accountability, and a few days ago we received a special request. The pastor of that church is now requesting that his church be allowed to do the Bible Studies. A plan is being implemented. Due to the high cost of international shipping, they will be scanning and sending back their completed studies for grading. Please pray that this will work efficiently.

## Leslie Zamorano has Returned to Minister in Reynosa Prison

Leslie gave her life to the Lord around March of 2013, and due to her hunger for the Word of God and desire to walk in His ways, she immediately began doing the Bible Studies. After her first course of studies, she received the highest overall score and for her accomplishment received a Reina Valera Thompson Chain Bible. Within a year she was “encargada” (caretaker) of the ladies’ church. Though not officially pastor, she had the keys to the church and helped to lead in worship. After her release in November 2015, she was called into the ministry and now returns to the place of her spiritual birth every Sunday to minister — the Reynosa Prison! We have stayed in contact since her release, and she recently asked if her church in Reynosa could enroll in the Studies. Studies have been sent to them, and we await the return of the first batch for grading.

## This Ministry Continues Because Of You!

Though we cannot say in each newsletter that scores of people are coming to the Lord, we are so very thankful for the reaping that we do see. Not everyone “sticks,” but many do. Not all who come to the Lord in the prisons are called into the ministry, but over the years we have seen many like Shaolin and Leslie who have been. Many having been saved in prison return to help others who are now in the same condition they were before God delivered them. Because of you many hear; because of you many have found the Lord. We could not go if it were not for you. Your financial support, but more importantly, and we can’t emphasize this enough, your prayers make it all possible. All we have ever requested were your prayers because the Lord knows all our needs, and He knows how to supply. Rest assured knowing that in due season, if we remain faithful, we shall all hear Him say WELL DONE!

From our corner of “His Field”,

*Gary and Brenda Morgan*