



THE KEY

Sept./Oct. 2026

T.I.M.E for Christ Jail Ministry

Mission: to evangelize and disciple inmates, resulting in a spiritual awakening and an intimate love relationship with Jesus Christ thus empowering them for extended incarceration or a return to society.



Chaplain Bruce Gonzales

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

These first few months assuming the role as Protestant Chaplain at the Bexar County Jail have been a whirlwind. What I have deemed "Phase 1" was answering the external call to step out in faith to begin full time vocational ministry. For over a decade I have been working full-time teaching High School Math while doing ministry, evangelism, and discipleship outside of work hours. God had been training, and building me toward that fateful day when I would be considered and ultimately offered the position as the next Protestant Chaplain at the County Jail. Though not as dramatic, I am reminded of when Jesus called his early disciples. There came a day when the external call came for these young professionals to follow Jesus so that they could fish for something greater: the souls of image bearers of God. Well what was these men's response? Matthew 4:20 tells us they "immediately they left their nets and followed Him."

Phase 1 has been a fruitful time of delving into a whole new professional life where I act as executive director over **T.I.M.E. for Christ Jail Ministry** and Protestant Chaplain at the Jail. My duties range from writing reports, directing volunteers, organizing materials, working with jail staff, managing the website, overseeing the finances, and more. It is a joy so far to be able to be front and center working all these parts together with the expressed intent of making disciples at the Bexar County Jail!

Through the thick of administrative duties I have continued to teach my weekly class equipping men to disciple men in their pods through the stories of Scripture. Men have been blessed to learn how Creation, Adam and Eve, The Fall, Noah, The Nations, and Abraham function in the narrative of scripture and how it ties into their own story of redemption.

"GOD,
I HAVE NO FRIENDS,
I HAVE NO FAMILY,
I WANT TO BE
A GOOD FATHER,
BUT I WANT
YOU
TO BE MY FATHER."



In addition to the classroom I have had opportunities to fulfill unique chaplain requests. The men I have been able to meet with on the protected floors are not able to go to discipleship classes, they are mainly gang or ex-gang members. When I met with a man who merely requested a Bible, I had the privilege of meeting him in a very vulnerable place where he was hurting. This man had lived the sinful life and found that it resulted in a deep dead end, and with the news of him becoming a new Dad, he expressed to me that he wanted to be a good father. He told me he was done with his old way of life and wanted to follow God. He said he was ready to accept Jesus today!

Praise God that He brings prodigals home from the end of their sins, marred with filth and regret. But God provides hope, redemption, and the loving arms of a Father. I shared the Gospel with this man through the lens of fatherhood—explaining that although we are born dead in sin, we can find redemption in Christ, who died for sinners so that whoever believes in Him will be saved.

That day, this man accepted the Lord. I asked him to cry out to God using his own words, and I was deeply moved by his desperate and raw plea: **"God, I have no friends, I have no family, I want to be a good father, but I want YOU to be my father."** What a beautiful picture of the way Jesus taught us to pray: "OUR Father."

I have met with him weekly for the past month and watched him turn struggles and fears into greater faith. Today, he is full of joy and eager to grow in the Lord. On a recent Bible study packet, he recorded his new spiritual birthday: **"Aug 4 2026. Started my new life."** He understands that he is a new creation. Praise our gracious God!



T.I.M.E. FOR CHRIST JAIL MINISTRY
PO Box 780484
San Antonio, TX 78278-0484

T.I.M.E.
for Christ
JAIL MINISTRY
+
TRANSFORMING LIVES.
ETERNALLY.

THEN JESUS SAID TO THEM,
"FOLLOW ME,
AND I WILL MAKE YOU
Fishers of Men."
MATTHEW 4:19

BRINGING HOPE.
SHARING TRUTH.
MAKING DISCIPLES.

BEXAR COUNTY ADULT DETENTION CENTER

BEHIND BARS, BUT NEVER BEYOND GOD'S REACH. | WWW.TIMEFORCHRISTJAIL.COM/PARTNER

PRAY
Lift up our ministry.

PARTNER
Give financially.

SHARE
Tell others.

GO
Make disciples.

Matthew 4:¹⁸ Now as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who was called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

The Harvest
IS PLENTIFUL,
BUT THE LABORERS ARE FEW;
therefore
PRAY EARNESTLY TO
THE LORD OF THE HARVEST
TO SEND OUT LABORERS
into His harvest
LUKE 10:2

Please Support the

Ministry :

by mailing a check to

T.I.M.E. for Christ Jail Ministry

PO Box: 780484

SA. TX 78278-0484

Or online

www.timeforchristjail.com/partner

The Next Phase: Building Support for the Harvest

Jesus tells us in Luke 10:2, **"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."** As I enter the next phase of directing the Protestant ministry at the Bexar County Adult Detention Center, I am focused on building the support needed to sustain and grow this ministry.

First, we need prayer. The work happening in the hearts and minds of incarcerated men and women is spiritual work, and we are grateful for those who faithfully pray for our ministry.

Second, we need financial partners. Currently, the ministry is about one-third funded toward our goal of \$5,000 in ongoing monthly support. Consistent giving provides the resources needed to continue making disciples and sharing the hope of Christ inside the jail.

Finally, we need connections. Who do you know who would be encouraged to hear how God is working at the county jail? Sharing our ministry with others can help us grow our network of prayer partners, supporters, and volunteers.

I am excited for what lies ahead—growing our volunteer base, developing new resources, and expanding our outreach. Please pray about how God might lead you to partner with T.I.M.E. for Christ Jail Ministry as we continue this important work.

For more info on how to support, please see the resources available at
www.timeforchristjail.com/partner