

Berean Prison Ministries

OCTOBER 2019 | VOLUME 11 | QUARTERLY



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.

Isaiah 61:1

2019 BEREAN PRISON MINISTRY BANQUET



The annual Berean Banquet was held Sept 12th at Five Points in Washington, IL. The banquet hall was full of supporters who enjoyed a wonderful meal and fellowship, along with music performed by Solid Rock.

John Haeffele and Ramon Portillo shared testimonies of lives changed while incarcerated.

The keynote speaker was Gracia Burnham. Gracia shared a powerful personal testimony of the capture of Gracia and Martin (her husband), their captivity for over a year, along with their rescue. Martin was killed during their rescue while Gracia was wounded. Gracia shared how the Lord turned her heart to love her capturers, and even though many of them received life sentences, a number of them have given their heart to Christ while in prison. Gracia was able to return to the Philippines to visit many people and encourage them in the Lord.

John Haeffele shared how Berean volunteers shared the truth of Christ's love with him while at the Tazewell county jail. John shared his thanksgiving for all that shared truth with him during and after his incarceration.

Ramon Portillo gave a testimony of his initial resistance to hearing the Word of God, but how a simple gift of a Bible with his name in it, meant so much. Ramon had never touched a Bible before, and he never had seen his name printed on anything good. He read the whole Bible many times. He could not believe the history and the forgiveness and healing that Jesus was offering him. Even though he spent 20 years in prison, his heart was changed by Christ in the county jail because of the volunteers that faithfully visited him and that stayed in touch with him over the years.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
GRACIA BURNHAM



RAMON
PORTILLO



JOHN
HAEFFELE



PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Wisdom for the volunteers
- Soft hearts for the inmates
- Joy in the journey no matter the path

"I just wanted ya'll to know that there is someone on the other end of a envelope who really is thankful for who you are, and what you are doing"

Exerpt from inmate letter

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2019 BANQUET HIGHLIGHTS



DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

2019 is winding down, and it is always good to reflect back to see where we have been. Berean Prison Ministry is an army of volunteers that unselfishly share their time and Godly wisdom with those that are finally willing to listen. To each of

the soldiers that pray, give of your time or resources, or are an encourager in the Lord's work, we say THANK YOU. May each of you be blessed by the Lord's presence as we close out this year and begin 2020. Blessings!