

# His Love Ministries

## NURSING HOME, JAIL, AND PRISON MINISTRY

A Ministry Dedicated to Reaching out to those the World has forgotten

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### Ministry Partner Testimonial

Every young pastor must face the challenge of the direction of their ministry. The flesh wants Gold, Gals, and Glory. Believe me when I say there is no Gold, Gals, or Glory in the Nursing Home Ministry. The Georgia Baptist Convention hasn't asked me to preach at the next convention. Pastors are not asking me to preach their next revival. Churches want a person with a "proven record of growing churches". Alzheimer's patients don't make good churches even though I've had 21 professions of faith. In fact I am doing very little to improve my standing as pastor of the next mega church and most of what I do goes unnoticed by the eyes of men.

What would you do if God called you to go to a place with very little Gold, very few Gals, and very little Glory? It is one thing to anticipate what you will be paid after you preach the revival and quite another to preach knowing you will receive nothing. I like to think that I am standing at the edge of the cliff grabbing people just before they go over the edge into eternity separated from God in a place called Hell. I am in the most significant ministry there is calling the elderly to repent and receive Jesus before they breathe their last breath.

I was talking to one of the elderly women and she said, "Thank you so much for coming, this is all that we have to look forward to." I then asked if she was a member of a church and she named a Savannah Baptist Association, a Southern Baptist Church. I asked if the pastor, deacon or member ever came to visit and she said, "I have been here three years and I have yet to see my pastor, my deacon or anyone else from the church." Yes, what I do hurts my career, it is more of a liability than it is an asset, nobody from GBC will ask me to preach at the convention, and to have a "good" church I have to be willing to do hours of ministry for the healthy and neglect the sick widows. I'll stick with working for eternal rewards knowing that God rewards what is done in secret. No Gold, No Glory, and No Gals just the smile of God piercing your heart from Heaven. Please read James 1:27 and then Ezekiel 9 and ask yourself, would God pass over me, my church, and my city?

Clinging to the Cross,  
Tom Keller

#### 2006 Statistics

Decisions for Christ - 546	Preaching Services - 228
Bible Studies - 162	Individual Counseling - 119
Substance Abuse Programs - 60	Special Programs - 8
People Attending Services - 10,150	Bibles Given Out - 410
Number of Times Volunteering - 267	Churches Preached At - 5
Facilities Ministered To - 15	

Thanks again for all you do to make this possible

### 2007 Ministry Accomplishments



**I would like to give praise to our wonderful Lord and Savior who has allowed this Ministry to be the instrument used in at least 103 professions of faith in 2007.**

- Gave 14 lap blankets and 3 Afghans to Oceanside Nursing Home for the residents.
- We partnered with First Baptist Church of the Islands to conduct an Easter Program at Coastal Men's Transition Center in March. Many of the men who attended were uplifted and encouraged by the program. We prayed with 8-10 men about issues they were dealing with.
- In January we started a Bible Study at Coastal Men's Transitional Center on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Mondays.
- We have been able to help about 10 men from the Jail or Prison by sending them to the Savannah Baptist Center to get food/and or clothing, as most of them have nothing when they get out.
- I have been helping a man that just left a Christian Based Drug and Alcohol Recovery Center since the end of March. This included getting him to church, talking to him on an almost daily basis, aspects of mentoring, and helping with problem situations as he encountered them.
- We have been partnering with Jasper Springs Baptist Church through Sara Hall. She was instrumental in getting the children led by Sarah Harper to sing one night before Easter for the residents at Westview Nursing Home. The residents enjoyed it very much.
- 5 people were saved the other day at Savannah Commons including one of the nurses
- Tom Keller conducted a "Baptismal Ceremony" at Greenbriar Children's Home. He gave a Sermon on Baptism and what it means. He gave a charge to those who were supposed to be baptized and then gave a call for salvation. Four were saved.

Hello P., Today I have a deep inner joy thinking of my new Christian family. Looking out through my cell window I see spring approaching at our doorstep because even from here life is so beautiful and precious. I thank the Lord for His forgiveness and another chance to grow stronger in His love. As I peer between the bars across the street are four Bartlett pear trees. Just a week ago all were bursting with life, as the blossoms burst toward the warm blue skies. But this week as they drop their petals to the ground, three of the four flourished with growth as I see the green leaves sprout forth. It is the latter one that draws my eye, out of concern, rather than growing, its limbs have become bare again. The springtime birds overload its branches. I don't know which way to feel, I am happy that it still struggles to help support its surroundings even at it's own cost. But it saddens me, wondering what has warranted its untimely death. Why does it not get the same chance as the others? I can only guess that it is the lack of someone caring for it, or improper fertilization, not like the others. As I have learned we as people need the same as this tree. We are all creations of God and deserve no less

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## Ministry Testimonial

When you meet Marty and Shelly in the aisle after church, you exchange the normal Sunday Morning pleasantries - nice folks. I heard him speak in church once. My opinion didn't change. He was so soft-spoken I had to focus to keep my attention on his message.

But, then, we were invited to go with Marty & Shelly for a mid-week visit to one of the Men's Correctional Institutes under the auspices of his outreach to prisoners-His Love Ministries. He feels it's important to show the inmates that other people outside the prison care about them. In our case he wanted our trio to come sing before his message.

I was looking forward (maybe not) to an uncomfortable, somewhat boring night where prisoners were required to sit through another message about why they should straighten out their lives.

We were cleared through security and something amazing happened.

Men began showing up in the room, each one getting a hardy embrace from Marty. Marty changed before our eyes. He energetically asked them about specific previous prayer requests, about their families, even shared jokes with them.

Once our singing was done, Marty stepped to the podium. Where he had not seemed comfortable speaking in church, he now had become dynamic and "right-on-target" with his message evidenced by the "amens," the nodding's, the heads-in-hands, even the sobbing of those touched by Marty's message, laced with more scripture from throughout the Bible than I have ever heard anyone use in a sermon.

God is blessing this ministry.

Marty gave an invitation call and men lined up to whisper desperate requests and share victories. Each one was embraced by Marty and other men from our church there at Marty's request.

Marty and His Love Ministries are making an impact.

Denise and I were amazed, blessed and humbled.

Tom & Denise Cox

**Please visit our website at [www.hisloveministries.net](http://www.hisloveministries.net) to see our latest schedule, information about HLM, and the many ways you can be involved.**

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consideration than our peers. I thank the Lord for being where I am today. Because if I had continued in the growth of this world, isolating myself more and more from my caretaker, perhaps I might have ended up like this tree.

As I reflect back to the book of Philippians, I can vividly sense how Paul must of felt while being confined under house arrest in Rome. As I compare from other sources the book of Philippians was written in early 62AD because Paul's acquittal and release from imprisonment in Rome was in the spring of 62 AD. At times I feel how he must of felt being full of joy, knowing that the Lords work was being carried on Each day that I wake up I can feel your prayers and strength. I long for the strength, guidance, and love that I receive from you and the Lord. The many people from our church have given means of growth with all of your letters, it's like a ray of sunshine sent by God. Beyond any doubt I will succeed in beating this addiction and become a better Christian because of it. I pray for all the members of FBCI. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Hello Marty,

I guess it is about time I send you a letter of appreciation. There is no excuse for me being so slack in my responsibilities. My mother and I were talking the other day in visitation when your name came up in conversation. We were discussing how blessed our church is to have so many talented individuals that are willing to put that extra step into what they believe, also for putting others ahead of themselves. I can't help but believe that you are a very devout and sincere Christian. Another detainee and I were talking about the ministering we received while we were at the Jail and it was a very positive reawakening. You are a fine role model and we discussed how we might be able to help others when we get out. In my stay here at \_\_\_\_\_, I have continued growing in Christ. I have also been assisting others in passing their GED's. It is so rewarding to see young men smile in such adverse conditions. It's not only the self-achievement, but also the security that they know that someone else cares. I always try to bring the word up in all my conversations and how Jesus loves them. Some do laugh, but that's okay. I hope that the Lord will continue on in my blessings, that is the walk with him that you helped me in. Before I got all caught up in this world and it's material things I used to assist in coaching football. It was one of the most rewarding things that I have done in the past. I am looking forward to seeing all of you soon and I pray for each of you daily.

Thanks again, with God's Grace, M

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# HIS LOVE MINISTRIES NEWSLETTER FOR

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