

ANSWERING THE CALL:

"For I was in prison and you visited me." Matt. 25:36

November 2015

Total Involvement Ministry, Inc., 8458 Langdon Ave Unit 4, North Hills, California 91343-6582



Quarterly/ Twice a year Issue!

From The Founding Director: Tim Page

One of my 'pet peeves' is the posting of flyers for jobs, or carpet cleaners, or whatever... because it's in violation of Los Angeles City Ordinance 28.+04, which prohibits posting of 'any' flyers on telephone/utility poles. So, I keep a small blade/knife in my pocket and either remove them, or 'make them' unable to be read. One way I do this, is to make one cut with my knife along the 'taped' edge of the flyer (that circle the pole with lots of tape to secure the flyer)... Then I begin to 'roll' up the flyer, eventually ending up with the tape used to affix it to the pole, being used to hold the rolled up flyer together. I did this on a Monday, and when I went back on Wednesday down the same street for my walk, they (whomever it was), had un-rolled 'many' of the flyer and just re-taped them back up! Or if not, they still put up new flyers.



tactic, but this half before they attempted it would require Friday, they So, I did my same time, cut the flyer in doing so, so that if to 're-tape' the flyers, more work. Today on must have decided it 'just wasn't worth it'... It made me laugh how much of a 'cat and mouse' type of game we were playing with each other.... The reason I wanted to be persistent with this particular flyer is that they were offering jobs to teenagers. Sounds great, right? I thought so too, because in the past, I called the number to try to get more info, so I could share it, but NOBODY called me back, when I explained why I was calling. Apparently, they didn't want any adults calling to get information, just unsuspecting teenagers who they could take advantage of, selling magazines or whatever... So, to me they weren't above board, and shouldn't be violating the law by posting them in the first place... The 'game' goes on between the 'cat' and the 'mouse' (me and them!).

I pray this month's articles motivate you to help our ministry with your prayers and support.

God bless You, *Tim*

In appreciation for your support,

We have the Holy Mass offered the last Wednesday of every month for YOUR intentions.

Next Mass November 25th, 2015 8:30 a.m.

As long as this ministry continues, we'll have Masses said!
Send back your Mass intention slip TODAY!



God Calling



(From the book of the same name edited by A.J. Russell (ISBN#0-8007-8096-5) who considered it an honor to prepare for publication to the public, the words that two lonely women in England were given by the Living Christ Himself! They seek no praise and these 'two listeners' wish to remain anonymous. Perhaps like them, you will find that YOU are no longer one and alone, but united with the Great Companion and Guide,

By My Spirit

Man is apt to think that once in time only was My Miracle-working Power in action. That is not so. Wherever man trusts wholly in Me, and leaves to Me the choosing of the very day and hour, then there is My miracle-working Power as manifest, as marvelously manifest today, as ever it was when I was on earth, as ever it was to set My Apostles free, or to work miracles of wonder and healing through them. Trust in Me. Have a boundless faith in Me, and you will see, and, seeing, will give Me all the glory. Remember and say often to yourselves, "not by might, nor by Power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord." Dwell much in thought upon all I accomplished on earth, and then say to yourselves, "He, our Lord, our Friend, could accomplish this now in our lives." Apply these miracles to your present day need, and know that your Help and Salvation are sure.

November 15th reflection

A penny a minute!

In our ministry, we make it a #1 Priority to always show appreciation for anything that people send to us, for their prayers or donations of whatever kind. Currently, it would cost 49 cents to send a first class letter, so we went to postcards (at 34 cents). Now we have a one-cent a minute phone card, or email to choose from (FREE!).... So, would you consider sending us your EMAIL ADDRESS or your phone number? Neither one will be shared with any outside sources! Just the cheapest way to say THANKS!

Consider Total Involvement Ministry as part of your tithing of your 'First Fruits' back to God this month!



2015 Financial Snapshot!

January 2015 **-\$675.08 BELOW** expenses ☹
 February 2015 \$306.67 Above expenses ☺
 March 2015 \$385.23 Above expenses ☺
 April 2015 \$106.87 Above expenses ☺
 May 2015 **-\$171.31 BELOW** expenses ☹
 June 2015 \$913.05 Above expenses ☺
 July 2015 **-\$30.01 BELOW** expenses ☹
 August 2015 **-\$213.44 BELOW** expenses ☹
 September 2015 **-\$469.35 BELOW** expenses ☹

Because of your help, we're staying ahead of expenses for 2015. Thank YOU!

If you'd like to help us to stay ahead of our expenses for 2015, you can send us your donation with your response slip enclosed. Thank You!

(Contact us if you wish additional detailed information)

Be a Pal! Become a PEN PAL!

Make a positive difference in YOUR own life and in the life of an incarcerated individual. Become a PEN PAL.

Contact our office (818) 893-7059 for additional information.

Total Involvement Ministry ~ ~ ~

...has as its purpose to bring God's unconditional love, forgiveness and assurance to individuals, but especially those involved in some way in the detention system. We do this through prevention, intervention, and follow-up. In addition, via this monthly newsletter and speaking engagements, T.I.M. hopes to educate our society about our youth and how best to communicate with them and to their needs. This is best expressed in our mission, "Answering the Call: for I was in prison and you visited Me". T.I.M. is a non-profit, tax-exempt and deductible religious outreach organization, which began as a 'grass-roots' ministry in March of 1989 but was incorporated on August 14, 1991 (incorporation #1499950). Its' Federal I.D. number is 95-4344329. It has been granted 501-c-3 Tax Exemption Status by the Internal Revenue Service as well as the State of California.

Questions: Call Tim Page, director @ (818) 893-7059

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Praying God's Purposes For your City ☺

Praying for the Church of Your City

(from the book of the same name by Ernie Frederick)

God sees a "Church of Your City", like the 'Church at Rome, the Church in Antioch, the Church of the Thessalonians', with many congregations in various places in your city's region. Jesus' sure promise is, "I will BUILD My church and the gates of hell will not overcome it" (Matt. 16:18). As you PRAY for the church of your city, pray for:

Jesus to Build it in its God-centered character... a called together, God-seeking people for His purposes, a covenant people, connected by the Lord's lovingkindness, a worshipping fellowship in Spirit and in truth; a family of healing for the hurting and strugglers, a Holy Spirit united body in "one hope, one Lord, one faith", a house of "living stones" cut to fit and function together, a house of prayer for all peoples of the earth, a Bride, beautiful in holiness, who loves the Lamb of God, a church planting, Kingdom extending, multiplying body, a Great Commission sending and supporting church

Jesus to BUILD spirit-gifted leaders: - Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers) who equip the saints (bishops, elders, deacons trustees, worship leaders, choirs, youth) for the work of ministry, and building up the Body of Christ.

Jesus to BUILD Word-generated vision in his Body for: Worship: that 'fills the place with the Presence of God'; preaching: that reveals God's love, exposes sin, calls for repentance and commitment to the Lord to own them; Evangelizing: that transforms lives and households; Discipling: that teaches believers to know and obey God; Praying: that invites the Holy Spirit to 'shake the place'; teaching: that matures believers into the 'fullness of Christ'; Conflict resolution: that brings reconciliation and harmony; Giving; cheerful generosity that multiplies God's provision; Mercy Ministries: that create faith and Godly responsibility; Family Ministries: that unite families in bonding for mission; Youth Ministry: that equips youth for living and service; Partnership ministry: that unites to impact communities.

Jesus to Build your congregations in its unique calling!

In God we Trust!

Since our inception in 1989, not one person has even been paid to work for Total Involvement Ministry, and that includes our founder/director who devotes 100% of his time to this cause. This is because of the proposal he made with God when he started the ministry, "I'll give 24/7 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week) to serving Your people, and You (God) agree to provide for the necessities of life." God can be trusted for our regular Daily Providential needs. There are different ways that you can help us, but our primary need is always for 'workers for the vineyard' We hope that you'll take the time to reply to this newsletter and let us know how God might be calling YOU to help. Thanks!

Prisoner's Prayer Request: Would you PRAY for them?

Every Saturday, volunteers led by one of our Board Members, visits a maximum-security prison. This is one prayer request that was submitted for your prayers.

I praise the Lord and I have faith in Him that one day He's gonna set me free again and return me back to my beautiful family because only He knows how much I miss them.

Esteban #440-xxxx

Over 202,000 Rosaries distributed!

Although we have been distributing rosaries on and off to the men in prison for a long time, at times, we are NOT permitted to do so. Therefore, any rosaries sent to us, will be distributed to other ministries and activities (street ministry, abortion clinics, etc.). We are very thankful to everyone who has sent us (and still does)

To date, we've distributed 202,070 Rosaries!

If you would like to consider helping our ministry, EVEN after your entrance into Eternal Life, please consider including Total Involvement Ministry in your 'last will and testament. Contact Tim for details at (818) 893-7059

Do you receive in the mail various medals, crosses, holy cards, etc. from missionary groups and other religious organizations, and don't really know what to do with them? If so, consider becoming a parish representative to 'collect these items' from other parishioners and sending them occasionally to us for use in our street ministry. The youth are always grateful to have these small tokens of faith and hope. Call for more info: (818) 893-7059 NOTE: There has been a change to this program, so PLEASE call us before sending any packages. Thanks for your support of this program.

Perseverance in God's Service

This column is a newsletter regular feature, from the book "MY DAILY BREAD". (by Rev. Anthony J. Paone, S.J. 1954).

CHRIST MIGHT SAY:

My Child, only he who perseveres to the end will be saved. Good resolutions will not help you unless they are followed right to the end of life. With the help of My grace, be determined to follow My Will in your daily life. Follow it regardless of feelings. Moods and feelings will change with the changing hour of the day, but your will must stand firm in loyalty to Me. Sometimes you will enjoy what I send you, and sometimes you will dislike it. At times you will be eager to obey Me, and at other times, you will be sluggish. Yet your will can rise, with the help of My grace, above these changing feelings. Your true worth is proved by a determined effort to follow your good resolutions. The Fathers of the desert learned this heavenly wisdom long ago. Never were they fooled by the devil's temptations nor by the self-deception of their human nature. By prayer, fasting, penance, and work, they overcame the enemies within them and outside them. With eyes fixed on Me, they saw Heaven

as their goal, and they made their daily life a journey toward eternal happiness. You too will be tempted to abandon your good resolutions. You will fear for your health, worry about your friends, be disturbed by human opinions, and become troubled about imagined dangers. Follow My advice. Keep yourself busy with prayer, self-denial, and good works. I will soon send you greater graces and you will find yourself closer to Me than before. For the present walk in faith, hope and obedient charity. Later you will realize that the trials which troubled you were actually good for you. They helped you to see which virtues you really possess and which are still needed in your daily life.

THINK:

It is after I have made my resolutions that the battle begins. Not only will the devil tempt me more, but I shall also have to take misunderstanding, and even bad will, from neighbors who resent my change for the better. My worst enemy, however, will be my own human nature. It will dislike the harder course of action which I am now following. My imagination, my old habits, my likes and dislikes, these will cooperate in order to make me abandon my resolutions. On such occasions I ought to get busy with some activity which will help me overcome, or at least disregard my lower nature's rebellion. God will send me light and strength in due time if only I will hold on to my resolution in the present darkness of fears, doubts, and dislikes.

PRAY:

My Jesus, there are no words to describe the grandeur and glory which await those who follow your holy Will in their daily life. That is why You never tried to tell us what it is like. When we enter into your glorious Heaven, we too will say with St. Paul that no eye on earth has ever seen, no ear has ever heard, nor has anyone in this world even imagined what You have prepared for Your loyal followers. Yes, no matter what suffering we may endure in this life, these suffering will never be great enough to earn the smallest joy of Heaven. Grant me the wisdom to keep my eyes on that Goal, so that I may never become discouraged or cowardly in life's daily battle. Amen.

EXTRA thoughts....

- Pray for this month's prisoner
- Read Reminder Box (change of address, etc.)
- Send in PRAYER INTENTION slip for Mass
- Stay connected via phone, email, or snail-mail!
- Review number of rosaries we've distributed
- Save us money! Send us your phone/email info
- Be a parish collector of medals/card and send to us!
- Consider making copies and sharing our newsletter!
- Use the prayer hotline: 508-581-8947

REMINDERS

• It takes effort to send our newsletter to you. If you no longer wish to receive it, let us know. Simply call us at (818) 893-7059 and computer record. please save us your change of A penny saved, is ministry!



we'll delete your If you move, money by sending address EARLY! a penny for

• Prayer is ministry. Our DAILY MASS direction for the personal life. Please join us in asking God to provide for all our needs on a daily basis.

VITAL to this director attends seeking God's ministry and his

• Although there are almost 1,300 people in our database, only 200 people receive the newsletter each month. Maybe you have been getting our newsletter each month, but would rather not. We can take care of that quickly, but we need to 'hear from you' in order to adjust our records. Simply let us know. We love to hear from you.

How are YOU treating Jesus?

Our Church is really great at a lot of things. No one feeds more of the worlds' hungry and clothes more of the worlds' naked than the Catholic Church. This is as it should be, because as our Lord Himself declared, 'how we treat people who need us, is how we treat HIM. A sobering thought if perhaps we're not doing all we could. According to Jesus, our very salvation can depend on it! One of the areas in which our Church could really improve, however, is how she visits those in prison. True enough, there are a number of dedicated ministries that seek to meet the spiritual needs of those in prison, but we live in a culture that largely demonizes the imprisoned, and that attitude tends to affect us without our even realizing it. I know this was true in my case... Until I became an inmate, myself! The truth is, I have been blessed far beyond anything I could ever deserve. It was in prison that God brought me out of darkness into His Church. He's shown me that I have gifts to offer to my brothers and sisters that I'd never known I had. But as Blessed Teresa of Calcutta said, "The greatest threat to many is a kind of poverty of affection, of love." In other words, we're lonely. This is especially true for those of us in prison. We are largely cut off from family, many of us completely abandoned by those we held dear. I don't really know how to describe the sense of utter solitude and desolation of heart that one can experience in prison. I am not saying that we shouldn't be punished for our crimes, but can there not also be compassion? It is not practical for most people to physically visit those in prison, but nearly everyone can write to those in prison. This kind of 'visit' takes only a little time and a stamp. You don't have to send money ---ever. You don't have to be a theologian or a saint. Just be a friend. And please, prayerfully considering 'visiting' Jesus in prison! Joseph (Soledad Prison)

Don't Sweat the Small Stuff.....
And it's all small stuff!

By: Richard Carlson, PH.D

Stop Blaming Others

When something doesn't meet our expectations, many of us operate with the assumption, 'When in doubt, it must be someone else's fault.' You can see this assumption in action almost everywhere you look, something is missing, so someone else must have moved it; the car isn't working right, so the mechanic must have repaired it incorrectly, and on and on it goes. This type of blaming thinking has become extremely common in our culture. On a personal level, it has led us to believe that we are never completely responsible for our own actions, problems, or happiness. On a societal level, it has led to frivolous lawsuits and ridiculous excuses that get criminals off the hook. When we are in the habit of blaming others, we will blame others for our anger, frustrations, depression, stress and unhappiness. In terms of personal happiness, you *cannot* be peaceful while at the same time blaming others. Surely there are times when other people and/or circumstances contribute to our problems, but it is we who must rise to the occasion and take responsibility for our own happiness. Circumstances don't make a person, they reveal him or her. As an experiment, notice what happens when you stop blaming others for things in your life. This doesn't mean you don't hold people accountable for their actions, but that you hold yourself accountable for your own happiness, and for your reactions to other people and the circumstances around you. When the house is a mess, rather than assuming you're the only one doing your part, CLEAN IT UP! When you're over budget, figure out where YOU can spend less money. Most important, when you're unhappy, remind yourself that only you can make yourself happy. Blaming others takes an enormous amount of mental energy. It's a 'drag me down' mindset that creates stress and disease. Blaming makes you feel powerless over your own life, because your happiness is contingent on the actions of others, which you can't control. When you stop blaming others, you will regain your sense of personal power. You will see yourself as a choice maker. You will know that when you are upset, you are playing a key role in the creation of your own feelings. This means that you can also play a key role in creating a new, more positive feelings. Life is a great deal more fun and much easier to manage when you stop blaming others. Give it a try and see what happens.