



Locked Down For The Lord Prison Ministry, Inc.
Larry & Kathy Medford
P.O. Box 1900, Hope, AR 71802
(870) 777-7528
Email: biker4christ@cablelynx.com
Website: www.lockeddown4thelord.com

March 2018

'He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed'. 1 Peter 2:24

I am a little late with our March newsletter. By the time you read this, Resurrection Sunday will be behind us but how thankful we should be every day for the sacrifice that was made for us on that cross.

During January and February, Larry spent ten days ministering at the Ouachita River Unit in Malvern, AR. Our brother in Christ Darryl Fox continues to hold evening Bible studies at the Department of Community Correction in Texarkana, AR. We went to the ABATE swap meet and bike show in Little Rock on February 10. Larry has been at the prison in Malvern six days this month. We also went on the Swamp Riders Lost Brothers Run on March 17. We haven't been on this memorial run in a long time because we are usually at bike week in Daytona Beach. We enjoyed the ride, the fellowship and the meal after the ride. We also met two brothers in Christ who live in our area when we were on the ride. Tomorrow we plan to attend a memorial service for Tony Martinez from Haworth, OK who was a member of the Kiamichi Independent Bikers. He was killed in a motorcycle accident last weekend. Tony was a good brother, always willing to help however he could and he could make some awesome breakfast burritos. He will be missed!

Fifteen years ago on February 28, 2003 Larry gave up his job at the Arkansas Highway Department to go into full time ministry. It was a leap of faith for us, probably more so for me than Larry but God has been faithful through those years. As we began to set up our ministry and apply for non-profit status, a friend gave us the funds we needed to file the non-profit application with the IRS. Other friends who had been in the prison ministry for several years helped as I tried to figure out all the forms that needed to be filed. We teamed up with other ministries during this time for chapel services and rodeo/revivals at several prisons. Larry used to leave home early Monday morning to visit four or five prisons and come home Wednesday night. God provided a place for him to stay in Pine Bluff during that time and it didn't cost a dime. We know it wasn't coincidence that this friend had a job transfer to Pine Bluff about the time Larry needed somewhere to stay. At Christmas time, I used to bake cookies and make candy that we took to the inmates at Texarkana Work Release. Fast forward fifteen years and with your help; we are supporting at least seven prisons with our Christmas Behind Bars outreach.

Larry has visited a friend who is incarcerated at San Quentin and we both visited another friend who at the time was at Pelican Bay Prison in northern California. We have ministered at prisons in Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma, Indiana and Florida. We have made some good friends over the years as we minister to men and women in prison. It is a huge blessing to meet an inmate, minister to them while they are in prison and continue ministering to them when they go home. We enjoy meeting their families and spending time with them after they go home. One of the hard things is watching some of them that go back to prison time after time. We've lost some of them over the years too as some have died in prison or after they went home. I have thought how awesome it would be to have anyone we ever ministered to get together for food and

fellowship. I hope we can do that some day, not to pat ourselves on the back and say look at all these people we have ministered to but to say look at what God has done!

The stories I could tell about the letters we receive would amaze you. We have been writing to some of these inmates for over fifteen years. They share about their families, their struggles, they ask for prayer, they ask questions about the Bible or sometimes just want an honest opinion on how to handle a situation. Sometimes they ask us to call a family member. Some ask us to send a card to someone in their family that is struggling with the loss of a loved one or has a serious illness. Some of them tell us they have saved every post card we sent them from Daytona and Sturgis and that it makes them feel like they are out there traveling with us. Their letters have brought us encouragement and brought us to tears. We have come to realize that for some of these men, we are all the family they have left. We can only hope that our letters encourage them and point them to Jesus because He is their only true hope in this world.

We've also made some wonderful friends going to secular motorcycle rallies over the years. We never know who God will put in our path when we go to these rallies. For some, it may be the only time we connect with them and for others; we may see them every year at Sturgis, Daytona or Bikes, Blues & BBQ. Larry has been around motorcycles since he was a child. You take that experience along with his boldness for the Lord and he will turn any conversation about motorcycles into a conversation about the Lord somehow or some way! God has certainly watched over us as we travel on the bikes or in a vehicle. We have had some close calls over the years but God has protected us.

We were just telling a couple last week that God can use what they have gone through to allow them to minister to others going through the same thing. God has used our past to allow us to minister to inmates and bikers. Larry can relate to the inmates because he has been in prison. He has used drugs and alcohol. He used to do all kinds of illegal things but God set him free and God will do the same for them if they allow Him to.

That's enough reminiscing I guess! We give God all the glory for putting this ministry on our hearts and for providing for us the last fifteen years. There have been times when money or whatever we needed came at the last minute but God provided. We are thankful for those who helped us get our ministry going when we first started. We can't begin to name each person because we would probably leave someone out but you know who you are. We appreciate those who have encouraged us and mentored us over the years. Sometimes we have been discouraged and wondered if this is really where God wants us. God has been faithful to send someone or something to confirm this is where we need to be. We appreciate all of you who believe in us and have supported and prayed for us since the beginning. We could not have come this far without your support.

We are planning to attend some rallies in April and May. For the first time in twenty-two years, we did not go to bike week in Daytona Beach, FL this month. Larry and Darryl Fox are planning to go to Washington, DC in May for Rolling Thunder. There will be thousands of veterans and bikers at The Wall over Memorial Day weekend. There are a lot of Vietnam veterans who ride motorcycles and as Larry said, with Darryl's military background and his motorcycle background, they should make a pretty good team.

God bless you.

Larry & Kathy