

Spring 2011

Issue 5



# Gateway To Glory Ministries

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## Obedience to the Word Brings Personal Peace

Obedience is a word that kind of rubs most people the wrong way.

Men and women in Recovery, or ex-offenders, often despise the word. Specifically because of their problems with authority figures.

But the application of obedience that we see in Romans 5:19, "By one man's disobedience ..." is very serious to God. Jesus had to go the extra mile in order to undo what one man's disobedience had done to bring sin into the world. He became obedient to the point of death. In this way, He paid the penalty of our sins. Jesus was able to find peace in His sacrifice because He had a personal relationship with the Father.

So how does this personal relationship come in? It is found in Luke 8:21. Luke writes that Jesus said, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the Word of God and do it." The

words "do it", are translated as "put it into practice" in the NIV, and as, "obey it", in the NLB.

At this point, things become personal to me. We are not only commanded to hear the Word, which increases our faith, we are also told to do it. Jesus instructs us to "if you failed to do it unto the least of these, you failed to do it for Me." Matt 25:45. This is where a true relationship begins to develop with Christ. When we do it. Our obedience grows into a manifestation of spiritual kinship and eventually son ship with God.

Always because of Him and for Him,

Steve



## On the Inside Looking Out

"I am an addictive personality. This means I am addicted to being addicted. That's a lot to think about. I always wanted to be someone else: my uncle, some of my friends, movie stars. I didn't feel that I was "cool." I wanted more than anything to be a part of the "cool crowd." It never happened. It seems I was always "on the outside looking in."

I remember from my childhood on that I always tried to look like I fit in. Alcohol and drugs seemed to help, but only when I was buying them for someone else. These people were my "best friends", until all my money was gone."

*The man who shared this story went on. He told of how he discovered the Lord while incarcerated. More importantly, to him, he told of also discovering the redeeming grace of our Lord and finding out what the "Body of Christ" is all about.*

"I found a new peace and friends that I never thought were possible."

*This is just one of many stories heard of the salvation that is going on in our penal institutions today. Pray for our Jail Ministry and the chaplains that make it work!*

Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. – Matthew 7:14

## Different Strokes for Different Folks

Men come and go through the Gateway program. Sometimes, because of this, we here do not feel effective in these men's lives. We often look at people and make assumptions and judgments. We see the way they dress, how they talk, and their carriage. We recognize their gifts and talents; musical ability, higher education, and other things. It is easy to see the outside of people, especially when we only see them once or twice a week. We need to learn to look at the inside, at the heart, as Jesus did.

Are they sincere in their obedience to God? Is there true humility in them?



Mike Miller-Manager  
Gateway to Glory

We had a man here at Gateway that saw himself as a failure. He failed to complete the Gateway program. I told him that the program was not of Gateway, but of God. We here at Gateway can only teach God's principles that can lead one to a disciplined, structured life.

This man made a decision to enter the Life Challenge program. This program intensely teaches the Bible along with discipline. It is a first-rate intense recovery program. I let him know I felt his decision was a good one. I can only hope that I can bring a man closer to Jesus.

This year, the man graduated from Life Challenge. I feel that he graduated from Gateway, as well. This is God's program and if you are good to God, you are good to go.



*Left:*

This artwork is only a sample of some of the things men in Gateway do. The artist is Tony R. He is no longer a resident but still continues to honor the Lord in his art.

Some men stay in residence and complete the Gateway program, others leave and go back into the world. All of them, however, have demonstrated that Gateway to Glory has planted a seed in them.

Our program mission is that we at least start our men on a pathway leading to Jesus Christ, after all, it is God that gives the increase!



## of Gateway



Another year has gone by at Gateway to Glory. It is already springtime. All the men here are looking forward to some nice weather so they can enjoy What God has given them through Mother Nature.

Some of the men are talking about putting in a small garden for fresh vegetables, others are planning doing outdoor projects around the Gateway house. We are looking forward to a men's breakfast early in April at a local church. Years ago, I used to be a fly-fisherman. I just bought a rod and have started to practice for the summer season.

Why am I writing about all this?

It is because the lessons we men of Gateway have learned are bringing us back to lives that were originally tainted by addictive behavior. We are being reminded by the program here of how joyful our lives were and we are shown how much more joyful they can be in Christ.



### Never miss making a donation with the GoodSearch/GoodShop Toolbar!

Once the toolbar is downloaded, whenever you make a purchase at one of our participating stores, a percentage will automatically go to Gateway to Glory. These stores include Amazon, Delta Airlines, and many many more!

The toolbar also has a search box and each time you search the Internet, about a penny is donated to Gateway! To download the toolbar, go to Goodsearch and click the box that looks like the one at the top. Make sure you choose Gateway to Glory as your charity to support, and then use the toolbar. It's that easy to support us just by searching as you normally do. From now on, don't Google something....Goodsearch it!



## “You Have Mail!”

Have you ever considered prison ministry, but were intimidated about going into the prison? You are not alone in feeling uncomfortable. What if I told you there **IS** a way to be a part of this important ministry (see Matthew 25:34-46) without entering the prison; would that pique your interest?

With the blessing of our Pastor, I have started a penpal ministry to men and women who are incarcerated. Through this ministry you can visit prison in an envelope to deliver hope and encouragement. If you can spend .44 cents to send one letter a month to someone who desperately needs to know they aren't forgotten, please contact Robin Malek at 586-264-2300 x102.

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### We're on the Web!

*See us at:*

[www.gateway2glory.org](http://www.gateway2glory.org)

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