

God's



Special Time

"I WAS IN PRISON AND YOU CAME TO ME." Matthew 25:36

DECEMBER 1990

KAIROS OF COLORADO, INC.

VOLUME 8 #3

EVANGELISM IN PRISON

One definition of Evangelism is "to convey the Good News of Jesus Christ in such a way that persons can truly understand, believe, accept, and make it central in their everyday lives". That's a big order anywhere and is especially challenging in the negative environment of prison.

Kairos approaches evangelism in a manner which conveys God's boundless love for all of us, even those whom society has labeled "garbage". A prison Chaplain, has said, "Kairos is love in action. It is, by far, the most dynamic and effective program for changing the lives of incarcerated men and women I have ever seen." Typical inmate responses include, "No one ever told me God could and does love me.", "I never knew what real love is, but now I do.", and "I finally believe that God forgives me, and I know that someday, with His help, I'll be able to forgive myself."

Kairos (Greek for "God's Special Time"), conveys God's love primarily through a 3-day Short Course of solid Christian teaching. The outside team gives 14 talks on a carefully structured sequence of topics, all of which include personal witness as to how God has touched the speaker's life in that particular subject area. These are interspersed with Chapel meditations, prayers, singing, home-cooked meals (and lots of home-baked cookies), and much small-group and one-on-one sharing.

One emphasis is on experiencing God's love through Christian community. The team becomes a loving community through their team formation meetings before each Short Course. Then they can live that community, not just talk about it. In addition to the outside team, inmates who have made a previous Short Course join the team community, demonstrating "agape" love in their service to their fellow inmates.

A major emphasis is FORGIVENESS -- how to avail ourselves of God's forgiveness and accept it, and the necessity of forgiving others and ourselves, again and again, in order to maintain a close relationship with God.

For maintaining a balanced Christian life, Kairos teaches a small Share and Prayer Group support method. Such a group helps keep us aware of our day-to-day relationship with God and each other. The group builds up each member, prays together, and reminds us that, while a personal relationship with God is vital, we are never alone in our Christian walk.

By the way, virtually the same Short Course experience and ongoing method is available to us outside of prison through Cursillo or Walk to Emmaus. All Kairos team members must have that experience in order to serve on a team.

Kairos is a ministry of continuing presence in a prison by means of the twice yearly Short Course for new candidates, twice yearly 2-day Residents Retreats for any who have made a previous Short Course, and monthly Reunion meetings, open to all, of the inside and outside Christian communities.

Through all of these facets of the Kairos prison ministry, God's love is conveyed again and again. Outsiders who are willing to drive long distances and invest their time in inmates' lives are a powerful demonstration of God's love for us all.

The Good News is that God loves us so much that Christ died for us and rose from the dead so we can be forgiven and live in fellowship with Him for all eternity. Kairos conveys that Good News in word and deed, here and now, to those in prison.

MAKE A FRIEND -- BE A FRIEND -- BRING YOUR FRIEND TO CHRIST

50's FUNDRAISER DANCE

The 50's dance was held as scheduled November 3, 1990. The committee did a wonderful job, and those fortunate enough to attend had a great time.

Unfortunately, due to bad weather, Postal system problems, and scheduling conflicts, all of which were out of our planners' control, we had a very poor turn out. Even many who had planned to come didn't make it for various reasons. The result was that we had a fairly large deficit, so -----

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Please prayerfully consider making a tax-deductible donation to help offset our deficit. Donations given by those who came were \$10 per person. Any amount will be gratefully received, and we will gladly send you a tax receipt if you request one.

Please make your checks payable to Kairos of Colorado, Inc., and send them to:

Kairos Treasurer
P. O. Box 25004
Colorado Springs, CO 80936

!!! THANK YOU !!!

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KAIROS SHORT COURSES -- SPRING 1991

WHERE	WHEN	CONTACT
Fremont	14-17 March	Dick Evans 719-597-3426
Women's	18-21 April	Mary Sogan 303-937-7675
Territorial	16-19 May	Gene Wilkowski 303-939-8171

SEE BELOW -----

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING --

-- Witnessing for Christ

"Be ready at all times to answer anyone who asks you to explain the hope you have in you." (1 Peter 3:15 GNB) In order to be witnesses for Christ, we must indeed "be ready" to respond to others in such ways as will draw them closer to the Lord. We must remember that our witness should be short enough to hold our hearer's attention (around five minutes), be relevant to our everyday lives, and glorify Jesus. Here are some tips gleaned from the Faith Alive newsletter:

Make three lists: #1 "Before I asked Jesus into my life", #2 "How I asked Him to come in", and #3 "How Jesus has changed my life now that He is my Savior and Lord."

On #1, list several events or brief descriptions of yourself that would give others insight into your life before you made a commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord.

On #2, describe the circumstances and the event of your meeting Jesus, with only enough detail to make it real to your listeners. Detail is important so that it doesn't sound vague, but a real event.

On #3, list several ways that Jesus has changed your life. Emphasize new growth experiences and recently answered prayers. Be sure these give glory to Jesus, and not to yourself.

Review your lists often enough to remember their contents easily. A witness is not a confession. Avoid matters of doctrine, other churches, religions, and negatives about your church or any other. Give glory to God, not to Kairos, Cursillo, Emmaus, Faith Alive, or any other ministry or person.

The Holy Spirit will no doubt change your "witness" from time to time, up-dating list #3, but keeping these lists well in mind will help you to follow His lead easily and naturally with whichever parts of your story will be relevant to your hearer. Remember, too, that our "witness" is not only in being called to speak, but in our gentle and loving attitude toward everyone we meet.

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WE NEED DISCIPLES

Team Building

We realize that serving on a Kairos weekend is not everyone's desire, but also realize that they are still led to serve in some capacity in this ministry.

We desperately need people in many capacities which do not involve serving on weekends within the facilities. Outside kitchen teams, various committees, and general help. We need speakers for churches and people to mail packets to churches for bringing Kairos to the larger Christian community.

If this describes YOU, or even if you are not quite sure where the Lord wants you to serve, please take a minute to call or write to one of the following and let them know of your interest. Other men's prisons are ready for Kairos and we don't have enough volunteers. Let us not let the Lord down, answer the call.

Dave and Nell Jones
3875 Lee Hill Dr.
Boulder, CO 80302
442-8479

Jim and Peggy Strub
2821 Chelton Rd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80909
634-2821

Art Wise
158 Parkview Ave.
Golden, CO 80401
526-9038

OUTSIDE WEEKENDS

The blessings offered by a Kairos Weekend are also available outside and go by various names. One of these Weekend experiences is a prerequisite for Kairos team members. Here are some dates and contact persons for your information:

- Catholic Cursillo, Colorado Springs area:
 - Women: Spring 1991, Maggie Love 719-594-9532 Colorado Springs
 - Men: Fall 1991, Gary Love 719-594-9532 Colorado Springs
- Catholic Cursillo, Air Force Academy:
 - Men: February 7-10, Bob Reilman 719-472-6923 Colorado Springs
 - Women: March 7-10, Sunni Reilman 719-472-6923 Colorado Springs
- Catholic Cursillo, Denver area, and Catholic Spanish Cursillo, Denver area:
 - Next dates, Sue & Frank Martinez 303-693-3726 Aurora
- Episcopal Cursillo, Men & Women: Spring 1991
 - Greg Green 303-939-4290 Arvada
- Koinonia, Northern Colorado, Men & Women: Winter/Spring 1991
 - Sallie Youngman 303-484-6329 Ft Collins
- Koinonia, Denver area, Men & Women: Winter/Spring 1991
 - Al Lowrie 303-794-7308 Littleton
- Walk to Emmaus (Methodist sponsored, open to all):
 - Men: April 11-14, Horn Creek Ranch, Westcliffe
 - Steve Barnett 303-773-8018 Englewood
 - Dick Evans 719-597-3426 Colorado Springs
 - Women: April 18-21, Horn Creek Ranch, Westcliffe
 - Debby Young 303-470-0872 Highlands Ranch
 - Julie Culbertson 719-597-8280 Colorado Springs

-- THE LEAST OF THESE --

PROGRESS REPORT #9 --- NOVEMBER 1990 --- \$4,200 TO GO

PROJECT: CHAPEL at COLORADO WOMEN'S CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Dear _____,

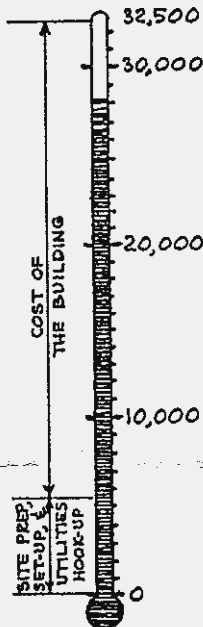
Thank you very much for your generous support of this special project. Your tax deductible gift of \$_____, received in _____ 1990, greatly assists us in paying the \$32,500 cost of the modular Chapel building we placed at Colorado Women's Correctional Facility in Canon City in July 1988. Since then the Chapel has provided space for regular Sunday worship, Chaplain's offices, some weekday classes, 6 Kairos Weekends, 6 Kairos Retreats, and at least 6 Prison Fellowship Seminars.

Please ask your church, church groups, and friends to help this cause, too. Then we can complete repayment of our \$23,500 no-interest loan, for which we still need about \$4,200. We will keep you informed through our Progress Reports, so you can continue to rejoice with us for God's provision for His children, including those behind bars.

Again, in Christ's name, we thank you!

Have you received a letter similar to the sample above? If so, you are among the 25 persons, 21 churches, 25 church women's groups, 4 foundations, and 1 other who have donated to this fund during its two years of efforts. Besides coins in a special offering, so far donations have ranged as follows:

- persons \$15 to \$1419.40 (one donor)
- churches 15 to 500
- women's groups 10 to 1250
- foundations 500 to 4000
- building's previous owners - \$4000



HAVE YOU GIVEN YET?

If you not yet received such a letter, we pray that you will give us the opportunity to send you one SOON. Our need can be met by:

- 42 donors averaging \$100
- 56 donors averaging \$75
- 84 donors averaging \$50
- 105 donors averaging \$40
- 168 donors averaging \$25.....

Please ask God at what level He wants YOU to give. Any and every amount is gratefully received. Let's finish the job, and rejoice in hearing our Lord say

WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANTS!

Make checks payable to: KAIROS PRISON CHAPEL FUND

Send to: 2821 North Chelton Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80909

PRAYER WARRIORS FOR PRISONERS
P. O. Box 1574
Canon City, CO 81215-1574.

We want to inform our readers about a prison ministry coordinated by Jan McLaughlin in Canon City. Jan gets specific prayer requests from inmates in the various prisons and passes them on to Prayer Warriors, more of whom are ALWAYS needed.

Although not required, some Prayer Warriors correspond with or visit their inmates. As one Prayer Warrior shared in the PWFP newsletter, "We can never do a kindness too soon, for we never know how soon it will be too late."

Jesus said, "I was in prison and you came to me." --

-- but not everyone is able to do that, for various reasons. As one donor wrote to another prison ministry: "I cannot visit people in prison as I'm not near one, but the Bible says we should visit. So this check is to help you visit more prisoners in my place. May God bless your efforts to help them."

Will you help Kairos volunteers visit more prisoners in YOUR place? Please see the Kairos SPONSOR form on the back page.

GOD'S SPECIAL TIME



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DO NOT FORWARD--ACR-RPG
KAIROS OF COLORADO, INC
P. O. BOX 25004
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80936

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS and RETURNED bulk mail
are EXPENSIVE. PLEASE help save ministry
money and keep our address file up-to-date.

Send to: KAIROS NEWSLETTER, P.O.Box 25004
Colorado Springs, CO 80936
Change ___ Correct ___ Add ___ Delete ___
Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: (____) _____

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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Editors: Peggy and Jim Strub
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St Michael the Archangel, Colorado Springs

DUPLICATE COPY? -- PLEASE PASS IT ON !

KAIROS LAPEL PINS are in the form of the Kairos logo, with gold lettering on
red or blue Cloisonne background. Wearing this beautiful pin can open doors to
witnessing. They are also a nice gift for someone active in the ministry. To
purchase pins at \$5 each, please send payment (payable to Kairos of Colorado)
with order form below to:

Treasurer Jim Waters, 2411 North Nevada, Colorado Springs, CO 80907

Order for KAIROS LAPEL PINS

Number of Blue pins _____
Number of Red pins _____
Total number of pins _____
Total number of pins times \$5 \$ _____ (Full payment enclosed)

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____
PHONE: (____) _____

KAIROS needs prayers, people, and SPONSORS -- PLEASE HELP!
\$100 will SPONSOR one inmate/candidate.
\$60 will SPONSOR one Weekend team member.
\$40 will SPONSOR one Retreat team member.
\$ _____ helps SPONSOR meals (\$150 - \$200 each).
\$ _____ PLEDGE per month _____ quarter _____ year _____.

Please print: NAME: _____ DATE: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____
PHONE: (____) _____

Send to: KAIROS TREASURER, P.O.Box 25004, Colo Spgs, CO 80936 THANK YOU!!!