

A MESSAGE OF HOPE, comfort and freedom in Jesus Christ

“The Great Commission” by Kyle Murphy

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Before Jesus ascended to heaven He instructed His disciples (and each of us who have accepted Him as our Lord and Savior) to “go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.” (Mark 16:15). The Gospel of Matthew adds these words of Jesus: “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” (Matthew 28:19-20).

the Israelites out of Egypt? And God said, I will be with you...” (Exodus 3:11-12).

God will be with us too! Even more than that, He will give us the words to say to others and even provide the growth so that they too will be qualified to make disciples. Whenever we proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ to others or share what God has done in our lives we are carrying out the Great Commission and helping to make disciples. Even though we may think that what we are doing is of little significance we can be assured that God is doing much greater things behind the scenes.

Jesus instructed us to make disciples but some of us may not feel that we are gifted to preach or teach. So how do we carry out the Great Commission and obey His words? The following quote, “Preach the gospel at all times and when necessary use words,” addresses this question quite nicely. As Christians, we should be living in such a way that our actions show Jesus to others. By observing our attitudes and behaviors, others can learn about Christ.

In Isaiah 55:10-11 we are told, “As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.”

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Quarterly Scripture Focus:

Mark 16:15

“He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.’”

We should still be willing though to preach and teach when God gives us the opportunity. We can be encouraged by the words God spoke to Moses when he asked, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring



New ministry opportunity!!

We are excited to announce that Message of Hope prison ministry is now a [tax-exempt non-profit organization](#)! All donations are 100% tax-deductible as provided by law of section 501(c)(3).

Throughout 2014, we continued to expand Message of Hope in an effort to lead even more to Jesus Christ. With your help, we can sustain this growth while continuing to strengthen and encourage our brothers and sisters inside who have already accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

Whether you are able to provide a one-time gift or can lend your support on a regular basis – we could really use your help! Contributions are applied directly to the work of the ministry as we operate strictly through the support of volunteers. Some examples of how your donations will help would be in purchasing James Group workbooks, lessons, Christmas and birthday cards and Bibles for our friends inside in addition to helping with the cost of postage and printing.

If you would like to help by donating to Message of Hope please do so securely through the Donate page of the website or by sending your donation to the ministry's post office box.

We have shared in the past about the courses available through NewLife Behavior Ministries. We currently use this material as part of the James Group. The courses are designed to help individuals be reconciled to God, families and society by using the Bible as a guide to teach desired changes in thinking, attitudes and behaviors.

Each course consists of 13 lessons and each lesson has a 10 question multiple choice quiz at the end. Message of Hope currently holds licenses for four courses. We would like to offer our friends inside the opportunity to complete these courses through the mail. In order to do this we need instructors who would be responsible for mailing the lessons to our friends inside and grading their quizzes. [The ministry address would be used for all incoming and outgoing mail to protect the privacy of our instructors.]

We believe that by helping our friends inside gain a better understanding of God's word and His will for them they will be able to begin to change their way of thinking which changes their way of living.

Voices for Christ...from behind the narrow windows

Voices for Christ was started in January 2014 and in our 1st year we received over 200 submissions from our friends inside! Many of these inspired works have already been added to the ministry's website or have been shared on our Facebook page.

In June 2014, we started accepting submissions through Jpay (an email system for those within the correction system). Our friends inside have been using this for their submissions as well as sending in prayer requests and words of thanks and encouragement. We receive a few emails each week from our brothers and sisters in Christ. If you are interested in getting involved with this ministry during the new year please contact us for more information on how you can help!

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We can be confident that our words and deeds, when done for the glory of God, will be successful because the word of God always accomplishes its purpose!

The goal of Message of Hope is to make disciples for Jesus Christ by sharing a message of hope, comfort and freedom found only in Him to those who are incarcerated. In whatever capacity you are serving in this ministry – whether teaching a class, being a pen pal, visiting one of our friends inside, sending cards, mailing/grading correspondence courses, or reading the inspired works that are submitted through Voices for Christ – you are part of the Great Commission and are helping to make disciples. Thank you and may God continue to bless you!



The James Group continues to grow at Macomb Correctional Facility (MRF). Many of these guys have been with us since we started just over two years ago. It is awesome to see how far they've come and how many lives they've touched. It is because of their willingness to carry out the Great Commission that we are able to meet each week and also the reason the group continues to grow!

Due to their efforts, the James Group has grown to the point where the administration at MRF has started adding people to a waiting list (the classrooms will only seat so many). While we would prefer that no one who desires to be a part of the group have to wait to join with us, we are thankful for a problem such as this.

This is evidence that the kingdom of God will grow in any place where His children are busy doing His work. It doesn't matter the location – a third world country, a prison, or a local church – whenever we obey the words of Jesus Christ and preach the gospel (whether by word or deed) the kingdom will grow and souls will be saved!

God has built up some incredible disciples within the walls of MRF. These mighty men of God are changing lives by sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with those around them. Please keep our brothers in your prayers and ask that God will continue to give them the boldness and confidence to shine His light in a very dark place!

For those who do not follow our Blog on the Message of Hope website, I am excited to share the following news with you. On Sunday, October 19, 2014 there were thirty (30) baptisms that took place at the church services at Macomb Correctional Facility – fifteen (15) in Level II service and fifteen (15) in Level IV!!

Please pray for our new brothers in Christ. Their names are:

Ryan, James, Brian, Albert, Robert, Roy, Maurice, Yumar, Brandon, Richardson, Shawn, Andre, Todd, Anthony, Dave, Walt, Ricardo, Joel, Scott, Tonny, Willard, Joshua, Kenny, Kevin, Melvin, Dequindre, Jason, David, Mario and Karl

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Interested in receiving our
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or electronically by email?

Send your request to:
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Contact Us...

Please feel free to contact Kyle Murphy via email at murphy_k@live.com or visit the website at www.messageofhopeprisonministry.org if you are interested in finding out more about Message of Hope prison ministry or to get involved.



MESSAGE OF HOPE Ministry Schedule
@ Macomb Correctional Facility

3rd Sunday of the month.

Level II church services (9:30 – 10:30 a.m.)

Level IV church services (1:30 – 2:30 p.m.)

Every Wednesday evening:

Level II James Group (6:45 – 8:30 p.m.)

Every Friday evening:

Level II Celebrate Recovery (6:45 – 8:30 p.m.)

