



# PASTORS TO PRISONERS

A §501(c)(3) California Nonprofit Corporation

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How good it felt to finally be on my way to having the service in the chapel on Sunday again. Cell searches had been going on for 5 weeks and on those Sunday's, we could only do cell-front visits. However, what a shock it was to find that most of the chairs used in the chapel were missing! They are not to be removed from the chapel for any reason.

We expected 62-plus men and I did not want to have them sit on the floor. So, I went into action and reported the missing chairs to the officer in charge. I was told they were needed elsewhere. Then I asked if we could bring the two long benches from the gym into the chapel. I was told "No! They are not allowed to leave the gym." I answered, in good humor.

"You are telling me that the benches in the gym can't leave, when the chairs in the chapel, that are not supposed to leave the chapel are gone?" The officer smilingly said he would go check with his superior. A few minutes later, he returned and said, "if two healthy men would carry each bench, then they could be used in our service."

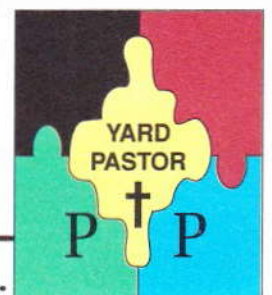
The next action was to get word to all the men, that if they had a walker or wheel chair, they needed to bring them to the service to sit on, because we did not have sufficient chairs otherwise. With the few chairs that remained in the chapel, the two long benches, the walkers and wheelchairs, only two of the 68 attendees had to sit on the cement floor.

The men were very happy to be back in the chapel. During our time together, many of the men thanked me and the other volunteers, for the Sunday cell-front visits we made during the time we could not meet in the chapel. They thanked us for praying with them and making them feel less forgotten. It was a time they could talk and share their joys and sorrows. Some of the men are going through very hard things.

The services are going well. One of the things we have learned from our study in Titus is that our living for Jesus is to present an **attractive** testimony. I teach from the New Century Translation. The Lord is working in the hearts of these men. We have had many transferred out of "D" yard yet our attendance has remained stable, which shows that in the hearts of those still here, God's grace is still growing and drawing others to Jesus. Pray that God will continue to teach the Word through me. Without the Holy Spirit's enabling, your prayers and gifts, I would not be able to keep participating in this exciting ministry. I thank you and thank the Lord for each one of you.

Rev. John D. "Jack" Oien  
Founder and Yard Pastor  
Pastors to Prisoners Inc.

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