From the King's Table

So Jehoiachin put aside his prison clothes and for the rest of his life ate regularly at the king's table. 2 Kings 25:29



From the Director

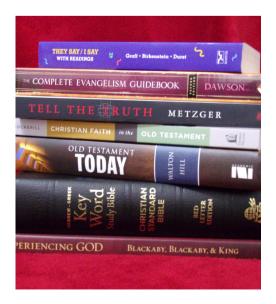
DR. BRUCE PERKINS

Welcome once again to From The King's Table. This issue is a combined issue for August and September. Classes have begun so the pace has picked up for both me and the students. We did not have classes this summer but the students did read two assigned books on prayer and discussed them in their reading groups. The courses for this fall include: English Composition I, Old Testament History and Literature, Introduction to Evangelism, and Experiencing God. It is a full load of classes with lots of reading, multiple writing assignments, exams, and, of course, a few pop quizzes!

I am often asked, "How can I pray for the students?" I shared this with our students and said, "Since people are asking, let's tell them!" Thus, the expanded Penned from Prison section in this issue is filled with their personal prayer requests for the semester.

It is impossible to overemphasize the importance of prayer. If we are to win the daily battles of remaining faithful to the Lord, it will be by God's grace. If we are to see men come to Christ, it will be by God's grace. If we are to witness a cultural change within the prison system, it will be by God's grace. It is all about Him! We are not smart enough, strong enough, nor stubborn enough to produce any fruit apart from Him. We must pray! Use this prayer list from our students as prompts when you go before the Lord on their behalf. Agree with us and seek God's favor, plead for an outpouring of His Holy Spirit, and rejoice in the glory He receives when He answers. May God show Himself mighty!

The Prison Divinity Program transforms the lives of incarcerated individuals to redeem both the self and the system through the resurrection power of Jesus Christ by providing a learning environment and program of study that leads to a reformed perspective on life which results in a redirected purpose for life.



Penned from Prison

This section of our newsletter features comments written by our students shared with their permission from their journals and writing assignments.

Pray for humility in learning and laying down pride at the foot of the cross.

Pray for patience with others and growth in community within the program.

Pray blessing upon my family as we move forward in the loss of our mother.

Pray that I will be a good student and that God will help me learn and be a blessing to this PDP community and yard.

Pray for a spiritual cleansing of my mind, for wisdom and knowledge in the classroom.

Pray for a daily refreshing of strength.

Pray for time management.

Pray for my brother to accept Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior.

Pray for the restoration of my family and that my three children will walk in the ways of the Lord.

Pray that God will grace me with the strength to persevere in this program so that I might be equipped to reflect the glory of God and become the man he prepared me to be.

Pray for organization skills, clarity, guidance, wisdom, unity, and my family.

Pray that we don't just acquire knowledge but that we use what we learn for the glory of God.

Pray that I don't focus on grades but my relationship with Christ and how school fosters that relationship.

Pray that my unresolved legal situation be resolved in the power of the Holy Spirit to bring peace and comfort to all families involved.

Pray that I stay focused.

Pray that God will help me daily to apply what I am learning.

Pray for me to focus and to use my time wisely regarding my studies and various class assignments.

Pray for my older brother who is going back to prison. Pray first for his salvation then for God's protection during his time

Pray for everyone who helps make this Prison Divinity Program a reality.

Pray for reconciliation with my children and for their salvation. Pray for the tools to help equip them and myself to further His kingdom.

Pray that our testimony will glorify God in witness to others who seek Him.

Pray that I have some sort of contact with my son and that I eventually have my freedom.

In order for the Prison Divinity Program to function properly and influence the prison system, there has to be cooperation between staff and cohort. Pray for favor with the administration and for students to walk worthy of that favor.

Pray that my children will live a successful life with Christ at the helm.

Pray that my mother and sister may have the healing touch of God.

Pray that new freedom is found through Christ for all incarcerated persons.

Pray for unity and healing in the world.

Pray blessings, love, and success for all our readers and supporters.

Pray that I will be effective in sharing what I am learning with family and others.

I humbly ask for the continued prayer of forgiveness, reconciliation, and restoration in my familial and societal relationships.

Penned from Prison - continued

Pray for unity among our cohort as well as society in general.

Pray that God will intervene in my sister's heart with His divine spirit of forgiveness toward me for disappointing and embarassing her and the rest of the family.

Pray for clear minds and the ability to stay focused and motivated.

Pray for willingness to help those in need and for willingness to ask for help when needed.

Pray for us to not lose sight of our goals.

Pray for strength in our churches.

Most importantly, pray that we will use what we learn to bring more people to Christ.

Pray for wisdom and understanding of the course material.

Pray for God to move in my life in such a way that He completely transforms my life for His kingdom.

Pray that I will listen and obey His will for my life.

Pray that I will better understand God through His revelation of Himself.

Pray that I grow more comfortable talking to others about Christ through Gospel conversations.

Pray for a stronger relationship with God.

Pray that I learn how to apply knowledge to change lives.

Pray for a stronger prayer life.

Thank you so much for the support and prayers all of you are sending our way. It means more than words can express.

May the God of heaven and earth bless you, keep you, and cause His face to shine upon you.

Yours in Christ, James W.





Distributing textbooks for the fall semester

Contributions supporting the Prison Divinity Program have now exceeded \$625,000.

God is good!

Explore ways you can contribute by visiting www.okbu.edu/pdp