

PERKINS PARTNERSHIP

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Angola Team- April 2012



MARGO DEWKETT-WARDEN BURL CAIN- PAULA MCKINLEY

AT THE RODEO IN ANGOLA

JEFF THOMAS-POPEYE-RUSTY GOETZ



Angola-Jetson Youth Facility April 21-22, 2012

Testimony from Margo Dewkett- Windridge Eq Center

The reality of evil can be oppressive, and Saint Paul, in his Letter to the Ephesians, identifies the warfare of the Christian as being against the societal evils that enslave both rich and poor. Paul writes, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (Eph. 6:12, KJV). This present darkness is amply evident in the daily news,

and at some time gripped the hearts and minds of the young men we encountered in the juvenile detention center in Baton Rouge, LA on Sunday, April 22nd.

As the young men and boys walked single file into the gym, that was to serve as our house of worship, they couldn't help but check out the visitors. On the other hand, their quick glances and jesters to each other kept their barriers raised. If the boys caught our glance they'd quickly divert their eyes and caught the attention from one of their buddies before the guards reminded them to "mind their manners". However, when

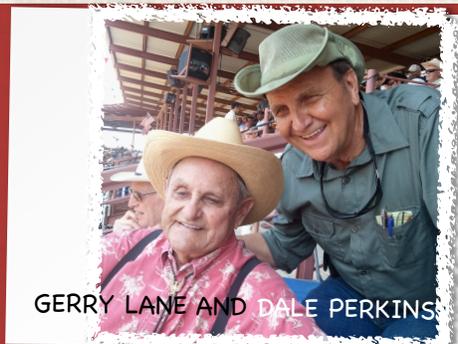
spoken to, the boys switched off the peer image and responded politely.

The boys seemed slow to respond when Clay opened our time together in song. Nonetheless, as I looked around at the 90+ boys I could see that several enjoyed the expressive rhythm Clay's fingers produced as he strummed the strings of his guitar. However, peer pressure does not yield well even as the vocalist tempted each boy to enjoy themselves.

Then it happened. Dale Perkins encouraged a young man to recite "The



ALESE AND MADISON PERKINS WITH WARDEN CAIN



GERRY LANE AND DALE PERKINS



PRISON POKER

Lord is My Shepherd". His eyes glistened. His voice remained resilient as he delivered each line. He was assured of his position to stand before his peers and acknowledge his Lord. As timely as he encouraged the first boy, Dale summoned another boy to sing a song and then another to rap a poem he had written. The boys enjoyed each performance. Even the youth that was determined not to give in to the harmonious atmosphere could but help enjoy his fellow in-mates talent and gayety.

From the time we arrived at the detention center there was an air of peace that transcended the bond the PPM team had developed on the trip to Angola and Baton Rouge. The sense of peace permeated the detentions house of worship that Sunday. As each boy stood to take his moment in the spotlight, he willingly exposed his God given talents. Other boys began to look in our direction to engage our attention. The barriers slowly lowered. A smile or a handshake, an exchange of words, or simply a hand on a shoulder resulted in the boy's approval of acknowledgement. The boyish smiles said loud and clear, "It's okay to talk with me." It was easy to see the boys who insisted their body language remain a defense shield. Several young men and yes criminals, tried hard not to allow their shields to be penetrated by the joyous atmosphere. Yet their youthful tactics still exposed their desire to be noticed.

Evangelist Alan Johnson's call to those who wanted to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior were words that landed on eager souls. Several boys rose to their feet immediately. Their steps were light and

their faces glowed as they went to Alan's side, turned and faced their fellow inmates. They made a choice that transcended their situation. Their smiles did not leave their face as they glanced from one peer to another. They knew who they belonged to, Jesus Christ.

Within minutes more boys walked forward to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior. They too wanted to be covered by the blood of the Lamb. The few that remained sitting couldn't help but look from side to side to see who else was going to "be weak in the moment". Then a few more stood to their feet, smiles on their faces, as they reached the front of the gymnasium.

I stood behind the boys in the back rows. As each looked at me I'd smile. I approached them, as so did other members of PPM's team, and ask them if they wanted to walk with me to the front. It was hard for several to stand up. Then I heard a small voice of a boy ask, "Would you pray for me?" A lump welled up in my throat as I said, "Yes sir, I would be honored." Hearing my response several boys turned in their chairs and looked eagerly at me. Another said, "Would you pray for us too?" My heart beamed and my motherly instinct wanted to embrace each individually as I responded, "By all means, all is well when we lift our hearts up to Jesus". We bowed our heads in prayer as Alan, Dale, Clay and other team members talked and embraced the boys that walked to the front. Upon completion of my prayer I asked those who wanted me to pray for them if they wanted a bible. No sooner had I finished my request when

each boy eagerly asked if they could have a bible even though they hadn't gone to the front with the others. I smiled thinking how I saw the little boy in each of them. I couldn't move fast enough to fulfill my promise and placed a bible in each of their hands. As soon as the last bible was in its owner's youthful grip I asked if I could write their names in their bibles. THEIR bibles, these words of ownership, these young men made a choice to accept the seed of faith. I took each bible from its owner and knelt at their feet. I opened the cover of their bible, looked into their face and asked what their name was. I knew I had only a few moments to look deeply into their face for the Holy Spirit to help me with the right words that added a personal message. My moments with the boys were peaceful and quiet, even though the room buzzed with noise of multiple excited voices that talked all at once. Every now and then a few stanzas of a familiar hymn permeated the air as the guitarist strummed his guitar strings. All was well.

The heightened excitement faded to a quiet exuberant atmosphere as the boys accepted their bibles from members of the PPM team. A few team members mingled with those who refused to sit up from their slouched rebellious posture. Slowly they realized they were not shunned and talked with the team members. Slowly they too relaxed and ever so slightly allowed the tough exterior to allow another to interact with them. In some small way they recognized the genuine expression of love and concern, for them individually, from the members of the PPM team.

Testimony from Mike Wallace-Subway, Longview

Last month, I was invited to go with Perkins Partnership Ministries to participate in their ministry at Angola Prison in Louisiana, and what a joy it was! That weekend was the prison rodeo which meant visiting the prison was a little different than what was the norm. I could tell it was going to be a great weekend for the Lord by the VIP treatment the prison employees were giving us. Everything worked like clock work, we get to the rodeo and after opening ceremonies we began visiting with the inmates who were selling everything from hot dogs to a gas tank for a motor cycle.

At first the inmates were just trying to sell their goods, but once they realize we wanted to visit with them about salvation

they opened up shared their faith testimony. Every inmate with whom I visited was a Christian. It didn't matter if they were lifers or long timers, you could see the calmness in their spirit. The Holy Spirit was bringing to life Philippians 4:11 (I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content.). To see the change from harden criminal to born again Christian is to me the most powerful evidence of what God can do in our lives if we will just allow the Holy Spirit to do a work through us.

In Prison, you are surrounded by angels for protection, then you have inmates for protection, and then you have the environment of prison life. It goes without saying, you are surrounded by a lot of sadness, but some sadness is even greater than the norm. I met an inmate who came

to Angola at age 17 and is now 49. He is getting out this year. He told me that the first 20 years he lived in the flesh but the last 12 years he had let the Holy Spirit rule his life. It's my prayer and what I told him was, "Tell your story to the free world, to the youth, and come back to prison and share your story with other inmates."

We never know what impact we can have on others around us. Just a few kind words can go a long way when we are down on our luck. If it weren't for the grace of God, I could be one of those in prison or homeless walking the streets of some town in America. And, if I were one of those, I would want someone to come witness to me.

Thanks,

Angola Testimony from Jeff Thomas- Humana Representative

My experience visiting Angola Prison was a real eye opener! As I wandered around the grounds of the Angola rodeo, I had a chance to talk to a handful of prisoners. As a matter of fact, I got to know one in particular, who beat me to the punch staying in touch.

His name is Theodry. I approached him and was complimenting on his work and got into a good conversation with him. The question he really responded to was "How's your walk with the Lord?" He came around from behind his furniture, and told me I made his day. He said he had been praying for somebody to come up and challenge him on how his walk with the Lord was. We talked a good 45 minutes and I heard his story on why he is in prison. Eighty-seven Percent of the men in the Angola Prison, serve a "life" sentence. He was telling me that he was in the wrong place at the right time, and if he had to do it all over again, he would pick and choose his friends wisely. In other words, he was guilty by association. The Bible teaches guilt by association, first, in a general sense. Ephesians 5:3-11 warns against keeping company with the immoral because the reputation as well as the sin rubs off on you. "Therefore do not be partners with them," the apostle says. "Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness." I'm really looking forward to going back to Angola to continue with my witness for the Lord.

Theodry and Jeff Thomas



LITTLE BOYS by Alan & Cindy Johnson- AJ Environments and Evangelist

When I consider the gentle, innocent days of my boyhood in Pine Tree there are no haunting memories of my Mom being strung out on heroin or my Dad coming home so full of rage that I ran away to save the flesh of my back from the brutal slashes of an extension cord. Such are the memories of the young men of Jetson – those shoes just don't fit my feet. How can I sit in judgement of those convicted juveniles? Would I have made the same choices if my childhood experiences were so dark and unloving?

I came to realize that these boys were victims long before they ever became criminals. So too is the case with the great majority of our hurting friends on Highway 80.

So what now? How can we bring eternal light of Jesus to such engrained darkness?

As I sought God, he revealed this to me – they never got to be LITTLE BOYS.... They grew up way-way too fast – they flashed from Pre-K to the penitentiary. Their hearts were solid stone even before they slid from the womb! Let them be LITTLE BOYS again – let them laugh and feel and cry. Take their hard hearts of stone and give them new hearts of flesh (Ezekiel 36:26). My beautiful bride, Cindy Johnson, and all the sweet ladies on the PPM team, gently and lovingly gave the boys new hearts, from their very own flesh. The wounded young men had to be LITTLE BOYS with hearts of flesh before they could hear God sing "Jesus loves the little children". (Matthew 18:2-4) Oh How the LITTLE BOYS heard God singing...

It is not over for the LITTLE BOYS – Let's pray for them –everyone- as we laugh, love, play and pray with the LITTLE BOYS in our lives today. Remember the LITTLE JETSON BOYS. Thank you for your Partnership in our lives.

Testimony from Inmate with whom PPM Board Member Glynn Hughes has been in consistent contact

Greetings:

I hope and pray that you are doing fine. The weather here has been splendid. Even more splendid is the indelible "Word of God." To those of you who may not know me, my name is Nathan Keith Nixon and I am an inmate at the Louisiana State Penitentiary. I prayed to God to send me someone whose heart would be crafted by His hands of love. God heard my cry and blessed me with a warm-hearted, compassionate, God-fearing friend who is a true man of God. Mr. Glynn Hughes is a man that has his ear to the "voice" of God.

A few weeks ago I was blessed to meet Pastor Perkins and another wonderful man of God, along with my Christian friend, Mr. Glynn. I was humbled by the presence of God in the room and I could feel the richness and intensity of God's love flowing through them. It was an experience that I will never forget. My heart was filled with love that I never knew existed by these "true" men of God from Perkins Partnership Ministry.

I must say we have to stay rooted and grounded in the "Word of God" not because people like us or love us, but because God likes us and loves us. Expectation has always been the birth place for miracles, you don't have to feel it or understand it, just trust in God. "In quietness and confidence shall be thy strength. Be still and know that God is God." May God continue to bless your ministry as you let God use you.

In the service of our Lord Jesus Christ, Nathan Nixon (#209032) Cypress Unit #2 Louisiana State Penitentiary

P.S. "The greatest sin is unbelief, while the greatest works is belief" John 3:18 Johns 6:29

PPM Recognizes that without the help of Daron P. Brown, Jetson Center for Youth; Warden Burl Cain, Angola State Prison and dear friends, Gerry and Eric Lane, Angola Prison Rodeo Sponsors- none of this could have taken place!

Testimony from a Kilgore Rangerette who attended Sanctuary Under the Shade Tree



The Sanctuary Under the Shade Tree is an unbelievable ministry that welcomed us to join them in lending a hand to the community. As Rangerettes, we feel so blessed to have such a supportive community, and we want nothing more than to reach out and humbly serve them back.

A local freshman Rangerette, Briana, first brought this serving idea to our attention. So, one Saturday morning a group of us joined dozens and dozens more helpers at the Sanctuary Under the Shade Tree. We were surrounded by the most kind and welcoming people who let us jump right in to lend a hand. We sorted and passed out clothing, spoke with people of the community and heard their incredible stories, helped prepare meals, and assisted with filling out food bank forms. Among all the activity that morning, the worship service was one I know we will never

forget. Every person completely surrendered all that they were to Christ, with their hands lifted and their voices raised. They seemed to forget any circumstances that had fallen in their path of life, for in that moment those situations did not seem to matter to them. These people have faith like you've never seen. Some of their stories were astounding and yet, they worshiped without fear of the future. That was a bold lesson that God put before us that day.

While working at the clothing tables, we found ourselves having to apologize to the men for not having enough men's clothing and socks to hand out. We were all so touched that day, and we knew there was something more we could do to help. That next week we collected spare change, any other money we could come up with, and clothing donations. At the end of two

weeks, we took the money collected and bought nice work shoes, work coats, jackets, and socks for all the men who so badly needed it a few weekends before. Our thought process was this, when they attend this amazing church, they are being fed spiritually and, along with hearing the word of Christ, we figured the only other tool they may need to get back on their feet would be attire for a job interview. We wanted to do all we could to provide them with opportunities for the future.

We all hope and pray that the Sanctuary Under the Shade Tree continues in its ministry to so many. Our experience was one that we will hold onto forever. We were able to see what real faith looks like no matter the life that God has provided us with. Thank You, Alli,

Angola Rodeo - April 21 & 22



Pictured- Clay and Wayne, Wayne is serving life in Angola, has become a chaplain and instrument builder. He serves the Lord with gladness and sings a "new song"

CLAY GIVING TOYS TO KIDS ON THE STREET



DR AUGUST WALLACE (OWNER OF TSO) EXAMINING EYES AT SHADE TREE



PPM's Spotlight...Dr. Larry Frase



DR. LARRY FRASE, gifted, benevolent, compassionate physician (specializing in hematology, medical oncology and board certified in internal medicine) is a BUSY man! Time and observation have taught us that if you want to get anything done "go to a busy man." With this in mind, Dr. Frase was elected a PPM Board Member in 2009. (Sorry, no rest yet, sir!)

Dr. Frase was born in Austin, Texas, and attended elementary thru high school in Copperas Cove, Texas. His medical and undergraduate education was all accomplished in Texas. Texas Oncology was blessed by his addition to the staff in '97. His knowledge and skill in the aforementioned disciplines are widely recognized in the medical world.

With all this "smarts," perhaps the wisest thing he did was find and marry Debra Kimble in 1979. They have three children: Scott, Laura and Kevin. Then, nineteen months ago "the boss" of the family was born --- look-a-like grandson, Austin.

As busy as this man is, it was so refreshing to hear family members say, "Dad always puts his family first." Other than his salvation testimony – in this writer's opinion – nothing better could be said about a man! If there were more hours in a day, he would like to ride his bike; spend more time on his "tractor" lawn mower (to help poor Deb!); shoot in sporting clay events; and read historical and Biblical books.

Dr. Frase came to know Jesus as Savior when Evangelist Freddie Gage came to Copperas Cove Jr. High School and presented the plan of salvation. His compassion for others still drives him to do everything possible to alleviate pain and disease and actually lives the verse "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind, and others as yourself." Matthew 22:37. His attention to a fellow board member in recent weeks

best demonstrates all that could be said of this physician, "The best preacher is the heart, the best teacher is time; the best book is the world; the best friend is God." One patient commented, "Everyone loves Dr. Frase!" We all agree. He and his wife, Deb, are members of Woodland Hills Baptist Church.

What an honor to serve with such a man as Dr. Larry Frase, as we seek to change lives and turn many to righteousness.

Hebrews 6:10-11 (The Living Bible Paraphrased) "For God is not unfair. How can He forget your hard work for Him, or forget the way you used to show your love for Him — and still do — by helping His children? And we are anxious that you keep right on loving others as long as life lasts, so that you will get your full reward."



BOARD MEETING
LFT TO RT- DALE PERKINS,
DR. FRASE JOHN LEACH,
SUSAN AVERY



PPM Christmas at the Frase Home-
Time of Reflecting on God's goodness through 2011
Lft to Rt- Deb Frase, Larry Frase, Charles Crumpler

AS YOU ARE PROBABLY AWARE, GARY HALL, PPM's BOARD MEMBER AND DEAR FRIEND WENT HOME TO BE WITH THE LORD AFTER THE PRINTING OF PPM's LAST NEWSLETTER. HE IS GREATLY MISSED. PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR HIS FAMILY AND PPM AS WE MOVE FORWARD

SANCTUARY UNDER THE SHADE TREE



Vision Tech testing eyes



Clay and Don



Rockin' new glasses



Lft. -Alan Presenting how to receive new vision



Vision Tech from Athens, TX making glasses on site



Dr. Jeff Jones (owner of Vision Source) with one of his patients

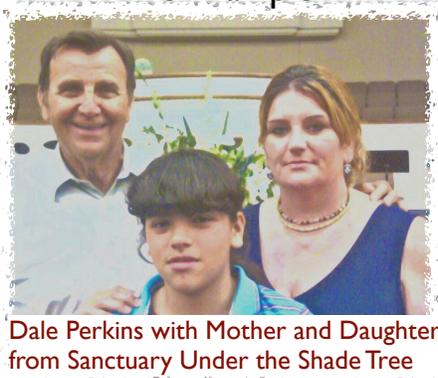


Vision Tech testing eyes

Eye once was Blind, but now Eyes see!

Over 200 pairs of glasses were distributed on Hwy 80 Saturday, May 5. Four eye Doctors and many volunteers came to help restore vision to those in need.

Prime Example



Dale Perkins with Mother and Daughter from Sanctuary Under the Shade Tree

Many people often wonder what becomes of those who make decisions on the street. They are encouraged to join a local body of believers. This is a prime example of what Christ is doing. This mother gave her heart to Jesus

May 5, 2012 and joined a local fellowship May 6. Her daughter came with her to church. Dale Perkins led her to the Lord during the invitation under the Shade Tree on Saturday. Praise God for what He is allowing us to do in this area of ministry.



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