

Subject: Article

From: John Giotis

Date: Fri, 5 Oct 2007 15:12:50 -0400

Open The Cage

Our prisons are filled with young men who still have a chance to make something of themselves. These young men tend to come from broken homes and tend to have started their criminal careers at a young age. They tend to be minority, and most disheartening, they have not accepted Jesus in their lives. A recent study showed just how bad the problem is, by pointing out that for every one African-American in college/university there are three in prison; and that for every one Hispanic in college/university there are approximately two and a half in prison.

The best solution is to create more faith-based prison programs in the United States. A 2002 study by the Texas Journal of Corrections showed that the recidivism rate for prisoners who have gone through a faith-based program is 16%, while those who have gone through the standard prison program is an astounding 70%. The Innerchange Iowa Program showed that inmates that went through the program were more than 50% less likely to commit a crime once released as opposed to prisoners who did not go through the program.

Despite the proven success of these faith-based programs giving inmates a new start at life, the workers of iniquity, and their liberal supporters continue to mount challenges. The ACLU has been a vocal opponent of faith-based programs in prisons and they have political backing from their liberal supporters.

But Jesus tells us that "neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name in heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12) Our brothers who are incarcerated want to accept Jesus in their lives, and they want to embrace a Christian lifestyle. Therefore, we must aggressively help those incarcerated men who want to change their lives by expanding faith-based prison programs across the country. And we must remember that "a bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax he shall not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory." (Matthew 12:20)

God Bless America,

John Giotis
