



Christ For Me, Inc.

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February 2025 Report

The last two months have been a blur. But God knows all that is going on because He is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. We can have victory when we follow Him because He is guiding us along the way.

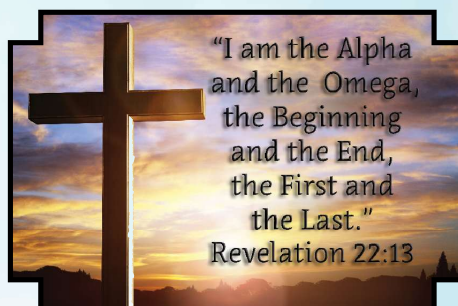
So much has happened at the ministry. First, snow days stopped us from coming in for a week. Our policy is that if schools are closed, the office is closed. On those days, I work from home. It is the safest plan for our volunteers. There has been an influx of flu and viruses as well. But even with all the ups and downs of normal life, great things are happening.

We have been praying for a more automated accounting system. I've looked at different companies, but the cost has been prohibitive. One company I reviewed was Oracle NetSuite. It appeared to have everything we needed and more. But the cost was over \$150 a month and I knew that was way out of our budget. Sometime last summer, I received an email from a NetSuite representative. She explained that the company donated the software to nonprofits and we would probably qualify. Immediately, I submitted our application for their review. We had several online interviews with them to obtain approval. At the beginning of February, we were granted the full donation of software which includes a year of training. Currently, Bob, Janet and I are in training. We are learning how the system works and how to put our data into it. *Pray for us as we learn, that it will be easy to understand.*

Another blessing came in the middle of February. A dear partner of the ministry thought ahead and provided a gift after she passed. Through her generosity, the ministry received a large donation. Planning ahead is a wonderful way to provide for the Lord's ministry after you have passed.

Receiving notes from our students is another blessing and one of the highlights of my day. Many students tell us that they are so glad to hear from us. Until this year, we sent birthday cards to our students. Last year, we had several of them returned every month. So, with mail restrictions, we have paused sending cards until I can find a way to send them more effectively. Birthday cards are only one of the issues we have with mailing to our students. We have received letters like this one:

"Dear Mailbox Ministry, I cannot receive your Bible study because the package is too big. Can I finish your study when I'm released from prison in April 2027? I know that is a way off, but I would like to complete your study. Thank you -- Stacy"



Mail restrictions have been a big challenge for the ministry, and they vary in each state. In some states, ministries like ours are exempt and mail can be sent directly to each prison, but in many that is not the case. They

require general mail to be sent to a processing center where it is scanned. From that point, it is either printed or uploaded to a student tablet or a shared kiosk. When lessons are sent to a student's tablet, they do not have a way to print it off, so they must write the exam answers on a blank sheet of paper. Some states have placed limitations on the number of pages that can be scanned.

The restrictions in Arkansas have been the hardest to work within because they only allow 3 pages and the envelope. I've been in contact with several facility chaplains to see what we can do and some have agreed to allow our lessons, others ask that we send the materials to them in bulk and they will distribute them. Still others refuse to work with us at this time.

Change is inevitable and we must adapt. Many students in prisons have tablets that they have purchased which gives them access to a lot of resources. I have been praying on how our lessons can be accessed on

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their tablets. Students can communicate through Securus E-connect or similar programs. This allows us to email our students, but there are limitations. There is a character limit and although you can send one attachment, it must be a png or jpg, so sending a pdf of our lesson will not work. It costs .20 to .25 cents to send a message, and we must deposit at least \$2.50 plus applicable fees.

Another great aspect of these tablets is the ability for the student to access apps that are for teaching purposes. Other ministries are using this avenue to continue ministering to their students. EDOVO is one that is used by Emmaus Worldwide (ECS). Last year, they uploaded several courses to this app. But there are some limitations:

- The personal touch of a mentor/grader is missing.
- A student doesn't have to study the lessons within a course in consecutive order. Lesson 10 could be

accessed before lesson 1.

- Grading is not based on the answers given, but on time spent on each question.

But, even with the limitations, it is good to have a way to get these lessons into the hands of men and women who desire to study God's Word through Bible Courses.

Recently, I decided to contact EDOVO to find out the cost. For 50 lessons it will cost \$1,500 to be part of this app. The Firm Foundations course is 48 lessons. We have several courses that can be placed on this platform and each course contains 20 to 25 lessons. I'm still checking on the other platforms which provide the same services. Pray that the Lord will lead me to the most cost effective platform to provide our courses to our students. Pray for the right person with the knowledge of web design to work with this project.

Ministry Report...

Mailbox Ministry - 1st Quarter

	January	February	March
Total Students	302	255	
Lessons sent	1547	1094	
Lessons graded	1326	907	
Certificates	116	68	
Salvations	0	1	
Return Rate	86%	83%	
Bible Sent	1	2	

Finance Report - 1st Quarter

	January	February	March
Beginning Balance	39,827.24	36,717.22	
Income	9,477.73	34,366.94	
Expenses	12,587.75	9,744.67	
Ending Balance	36,717.22	61,339.49	
Savings	32,400.68	32,472.65	
Total Balance	69,117.90	93,812.14	

Jail Ministry

John continues to have Bible studies at Wagoner County Detention Center and Jess Dunn Correctional Facility. At Wagoner, he is able to speak to a small group of women as well as the men. A couple of them are paying close attention. He is very encouraged. Below is a picture of a group of men that he ministers to in Wagoner



Praises...

- For the special gift from a donor partner.
- For the finance software grant.
- For the two chaplains in Arkansas that are finding ways to incorporate CFM Bible courses.
- For those who had health issues in February and have recovered.

Prayer...

- That those students who are having trouble receiving their lessons will be able to get them.
- That we will be able to find a person to help set up our lessons on a prison-approved app.
- For volunteers with ongoing health issues and upcoming procedures.