

FROM ADDICT TO DISCIPLE

By **Steve Martin** who is a Support For Prison Ministries Board (SFPM) member and a volunteer chaplain at Lancaster County Prison (LCP). Steve lives in Womelsdorf and attends Lebanon Christian Fellowship Church. **David Hain** is on the paid chaplain staff at LCP. He is executive director of Etsah Ministries, which works to bring wholeness and healing to lives torn apart by addictions. David lives in Quarryville and attends the Lord’s House of Prayer.

It’s Wednesday afternoon and the inmates from G-1 Block are gathering for the weekly *From Addict to Disciple Group* in Lancaster County Prison led by David Hain and myself. The meeting is opened with prayer then there is an opportunity to share prayer requests and praise reports. This gives the guys an opportunity to share what is happening in their lives, their struggles, their victories and concerns for families, court dates, and whatever else is on their mind. Often we play music that draws our hearts to God’s love and grace in our lives.

Then comes the main part of our group session; discussing what God has to say through his word about addiction and how to overcome it. Currently we are working through the Gospel of John, chapter by chapter, to see what Jesus has to say about the subject. After watching the chapter on the Visual Bible DVD, the men share what stood out to them and spoke to their heart. This past week we were discussing in Chapter 14 how Jesus and the Father want to make their home in us. We agreed that if we could live in that reality, our lives would be transformed. After 2 hours, the meeting is ended with prayer. In addition to this group, David holds another men’s group on Friday morning and David and Kathy Paxton hold a group for women on Wednesdays.



Steve Martin (left) and David Hain review Prison ministry schedules



An “Addicts to Disciples” teaching session that happens Tuesday evenings in Leola, PA.

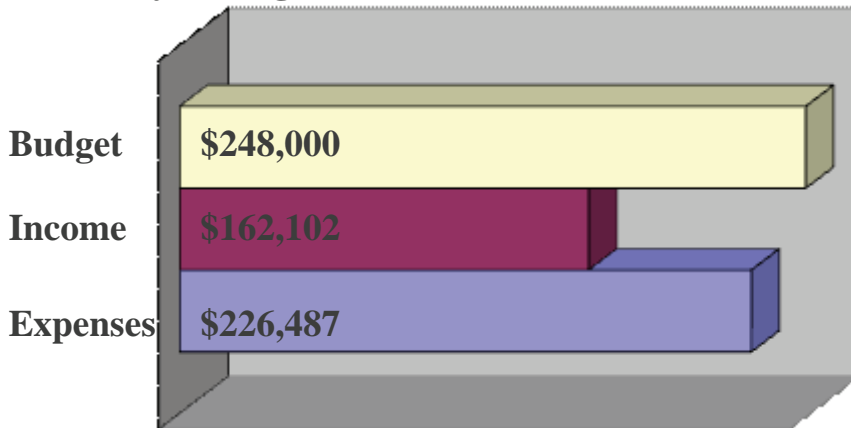
Dave and I consider it an opportunity to share our hearts with these men as they are on their journey to freedom. Their honesty, desperation and desire for change is refreshing. Because of the consequences of their addiction, they are forced to look at what has controlled and destroyed their lives. Unlike many of us, they cannot hide who they really are. It is out open for all to see.

Gerald May, author, describes addiction as a state of compulsion, obsession or preoccupation that enslaves a person’s will and desire. Addictions include things such as drugs, alcohol, pornography, gambling, food, shopping, just to name a few. We believe that addiction is a spiritual battle.

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Focus On Finances

January 1– August 31, 2009



SFPM's budget for 2009 year is \$372,000. Of this amount, about \$188,000 is needed from contributions that come from churches, businesses and many interested persons. As you can see from the financial graph, expenses stay fairly constant for the year (chaplain salaries and program costs and supplies) while contributions are smaller during the spring and summer months.

AN ENVELOPE IS ENCLOSED FOR YOU TO PARTNER WITH US.

THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIFTS.

"Quotes from inside the prison"

"For the prisoner who finds faith in God, personal freedom no longer happens the day of release from behind bars. Freedom happens the day they turn their lives over to God." *An area pastor who visits LCP*

"I now know that I am accepted by God. By coming to jail, I was able to straighten out my life. I am getting clean from drugs, for the sake of myself and my babies." *LCP female inmate*

"Thanks for the Bible you gave to me. It gives me comfort. I thank you for the chance to go to your teaching (a chaplain's session). I am now closer to the Lord." *LCP male inmate*

"Enclosed is a gift for your ministry. I was a recipient of your great (chaplain's) work many years ago when I was at Lancaster County Prison. I want to encourage you to continue with your work. It is a big harvest field of lost souls, many who resist the truths of the gospel." *A PA state prison inmate*

From Addict to Disciples...continued from page 1

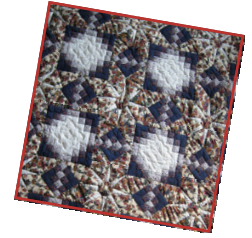
Our particular addiction is medicating a wound or hurt that is in our lives. Instead of looking to God to meet all of our needs, we try to fill the void with other things. Often as a result of these wounds, we end up believing lies about ourselves, God, and life and make bad choices. In the groups and one-on-one sessions, we look to identify these wounds and ask God to bring healing to our hearts. We talk about what it means to be a godly man and how to make godly choices. We also discuss the importance of true fellowship; finding five godly men who will speak honestly and lovingly into their lives.

On Tuesday evenings, two *From Addict to Disciple Groups* (one for the men and one for the women) are held at the Etsah Ministries offices in Leola, PA. Etsah is an addictions ministry that meets the state's requirement for drug and alcohol counseling and fulfills the requirements of parole and probation. The goal of this group is to provide folks with an opportunity for fellowship and a safe place to be honest about their journey. Often families of addicts attend to understand what is happening in the lives of their loved ones.

Recently David, the founder and director of Etsah Ministries, had the opportunity to take the "From Addict to Disciple" Program to South Africa. Over 200 prisons are open and wanting to get involved. For more information: www.etsahministries.org/



COME TO THE ANNUAL AUCTION OCTOBER 23 & 24, 2009 FARMERSVILLE AUCTION GROUNDS



Auction Services provided by
Kline, Kreider and Good Auctioneers

Friday Evening:

4-7 P.M. Chicken Barbeque (Eat in or take out)

5:00 P.M. Auction of quality merchandise, hardware, flowers, gift certificates, Winross trucks and collectible toys, and a big selection of meats and groceries.



Saturday:

7 A.M. Delicious Pancake and Sausage Breakfast

8:30 A.M. Auction begins with quality merchandise for home, farm, and business, including framed pictures, quilts, hand-crafted items, pedal tractors, and theme baskets.

Our auction goal is to clear \$85,000 after expenses, to be shared with LANCASTER COUNTY PRISON and YOUTH CENTER CHAPLAINCY PROGRAMS, EXIT (Ex-Offenders in Transition), FREEDOM GATE, TRANSITION TO COMMUNITY and WE CARE PROGRAMS.

Handmade wooden & leather items made by inmates and paintings done by inmates will be sold throughout the auction



Delicious homemade foods and baked goods Friday and Saturday



Donations of quality merchandise, theme baskets and gift certificates are needed. Volunteers needed to help prepare for and work on Auction Day. For more information, call: Nelson Martin (717) 625-0232, Glenn Hoover (717) 569-2475 or Cliff Martin (717) 336-6411.



VALUABLE GIFT CERTIFICATES
From area businesses for food, lodging, professional and home services.



3-D Art Work by
Aaron Zook
4 Set 9"
Collectors Item



Specialty items to be sold:
Pedal tractors, framed paintings, quilts, wall hangings, shrubbery, flowers, furniture, tools, hardware, farm and home items, food, groceries, produce, fruits, and meats.

Since the SFPM annual auction began in 1984, over \$1.5 million has been contributed to prison ministries.



Have you looked at our website recently?????



Check it out at:
www.supportforprisonministries.org

You'll find information about the auction, pictures of items for sale, an interactive map and much more!! You can also read our mission/vision statements, see pictures of staff, and get information about area prison ministries and aftercare programs.



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 Email: info@supportforprisonministries.org

Nonprofit Org.
 U.S. POSTAGE

PAID
 Permit #1746
 Lancaster, PA
 17604

Check out our website for updated photos and information: www.supportforprisonministries.org

PRISON MINISTRY INFORMATION CAN COME TO YOU

One of our goals is to provide information and training to the local church, community and interested persons. SFPM does this in a variety of ways; we have a full-size model prison cell to set up, have chaplains and staff who speak at church services, mission committees or small groups. We also have a display board/table for community and outreach events.

Contact Nelson Martin (717) 625-0232
 for more information or open dates.



Nelson Martin, SFPM Director and Katie Mininger, SFPM Chaplain at a local school with prison cell.

PRISON VISION IS PROMOTED BY AN ACTIVE BOARD



The ongoing work of SFPM is guided by an 11 member board from various churches and communities.

Back Row (left-right)

Ken Martin, Chairman, Steve Martin, Treasurer, Anthony Martin, Wesley Smith, Cliff Martin

Middle Row

Warren Hackman, Secretary, Glenn Hoover, Caleb Minnich, Dennis Sensenig

Front Row

Leon Martin, Vice-Chair, Larry Fox