

INMATE WORSHIP



“Will there be a place...
for me?”

Inmate Worship



- ◆ *“Jesus paid the ultimate sacrifice for all human-kind including those behind the prison walls. He bids us go and tell the “Good News” in Action, Word and Deed...Praises...*
- ◆ *“Whatever you do unto the least of these My brethren, you do it unto Me!”*

Chaplain...?



- **4th Century**
- **Martin of Tours – a soldier**
- **Reportedly he met a cold desperate beggar along the road**
- **With little to share Martin gave the beggar half his cloak**
- **As Martin slept – Beggar was Christ**
- **Martin converted to Christianity**
- **Kings took the half cloak into battle**

Chaplain...? (Contd.)



- **The officer in charge of the half cloak or “*cappa*” - Chapelain**
- **Hence the name Chaplain today**
- **The chest in which the “*cappa*” was kept was called the “*Capella*”**
- **Word now used as Chapel today**

FACT...!

- **Chaplains minister to:**
- **People with special needs**
- **Often where others cannot go**
- **They fulfill the Gospel Commission in specialized and unique settings:**
- **Campus, Corrections, Healthcare, Law Enforcement, Military, Civil Air Control, Work Place and others**
- **Over 300 SDA Chaplains serve**



The Chapel VERSUS The Church

- ◆ Serves anybody
- ◆ Any person from any faith background
- ◆ No expectations – Some to None!
- ◆ Front line ministry with no distinctive lines but work within their faith-based traditions
- ◆ Position of Teaching and Proclaiming via Love-in-Action
- ◆ Serves its members
- ◆ Members are like minded
- ◆ Certain expectations as to belief structure
- ◆ Maintainers of their Faith Tradition

Edmonton Institution

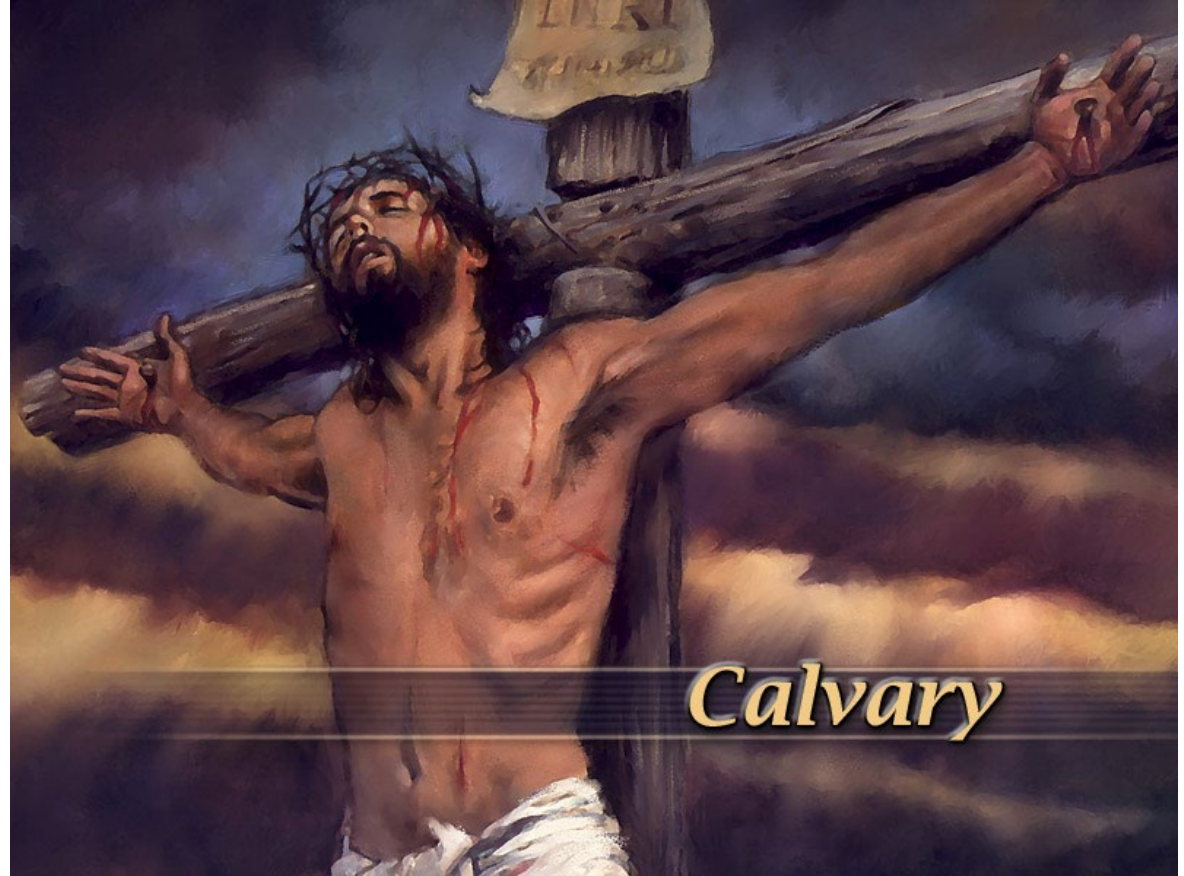


Only for the Strong...?



- Is the Chapel for everyone?
- Does everyone come?
- **WHY...?**

Is the Chapel for Everyone...?



“...AND I, IF I BE LIFTED UP FROM THE EARTH, WILL DRAW ALL MEN UNTO ME!”
.....JOHN 12:32



Why...Won't They Come?

◆ **Fear of Sticking Out...**

...By being a Bump on a Log

◆ **Fear of Retribution**

◆ **Fear to Trust**

◆ **Fear of Loosing Control**

◆ **Fear of Rejection**

And, If They Come...?

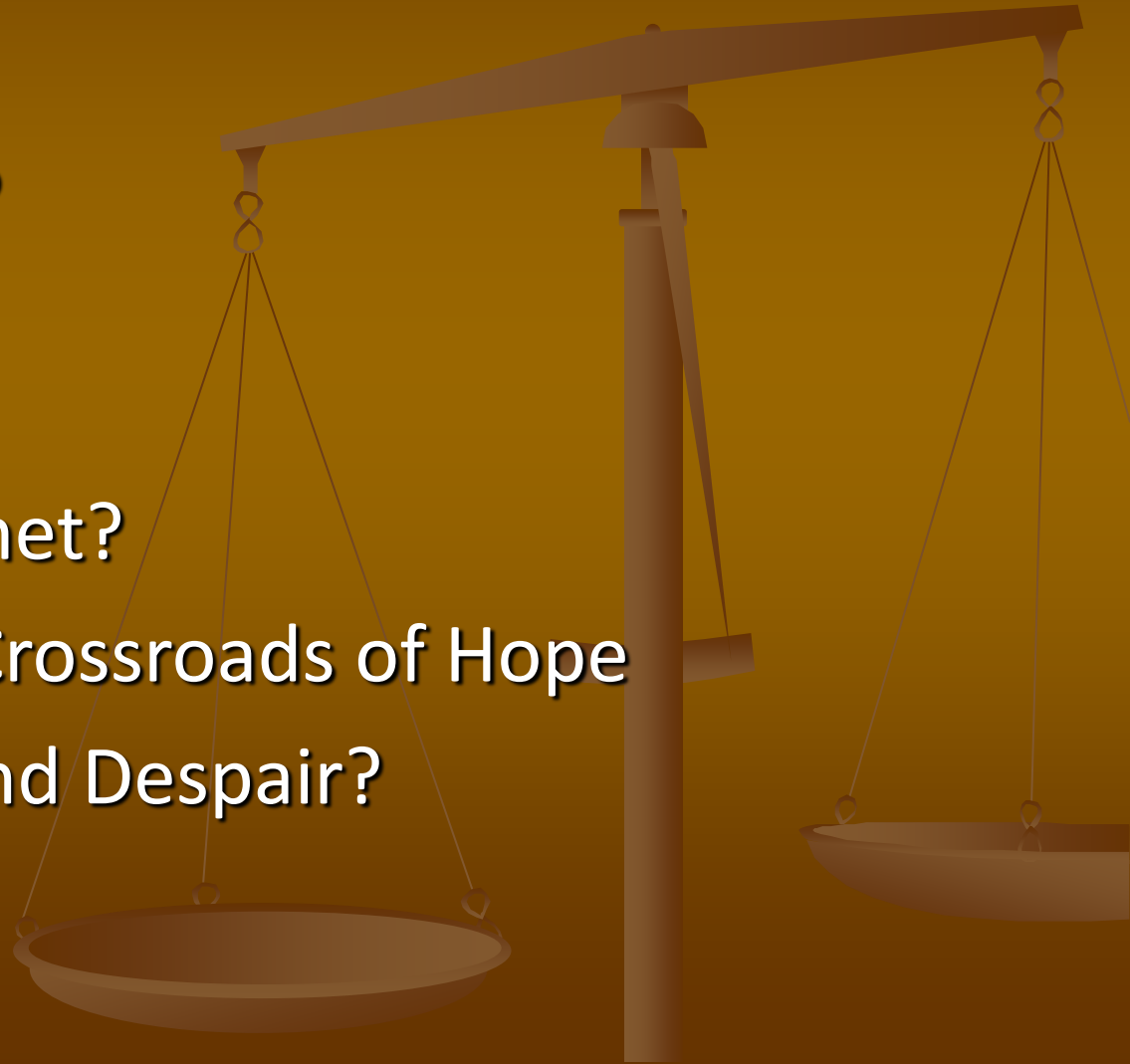
What then...



Jail House Religion

- What is it?
- Is it Good or Bad?
- Does God care?
- Can God still be met?

...at the Crossroads of Hope
and Despair?



Preaching the Word...!



The Good News Gospel

And

Him,

Crucified

Tested and Tried...!

◆ The Anatomy of a Set-up

A Case Study - 1

- ◆ Meek
- ◆ Mild
- ◆ Soft-hearted
- ◆ Need to be loved!
- ◆ Can't say "NO!"
- ◆ ...Patsies!

How can we reach them...?

- With utmost Patience
- “Wise as serpents and harmless as doves”
- Like Jeweler's refining fire ...we will also learn and grow in grace and love!
- As Ambassadors of heaven



QUALIFICATIONS

- Ability to Listen
- Ability to genuinely Care
- Ability to be Patience
- Ability to Share
- Ability to be Silent
- Ability to be lovingly Firm
- Ability to be Compassionate
- Ability to be Trusted
- Non Judgmental
- Non Argumentative



REACHING THE LOST

- It's a saving place
- It's a growing place
- It's a humbling place
- It's God's Place



Worship Service - 1

Christ must be:

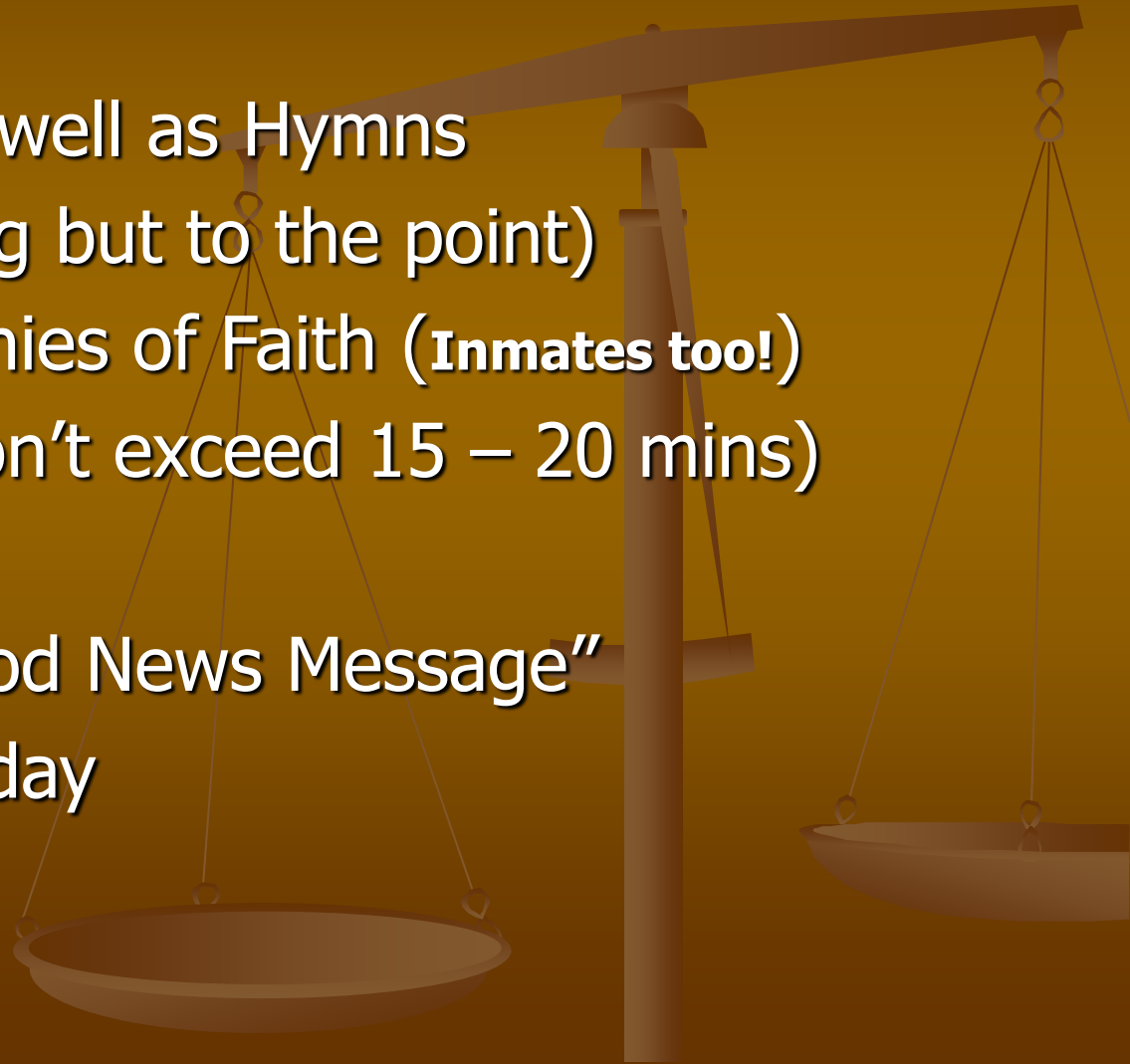
- REAL
- CENTERED
- RELEVANT to today
- ACCESSIBLE
- APPROACHABLE
- SUSTAINABLE



Worship Service - 2

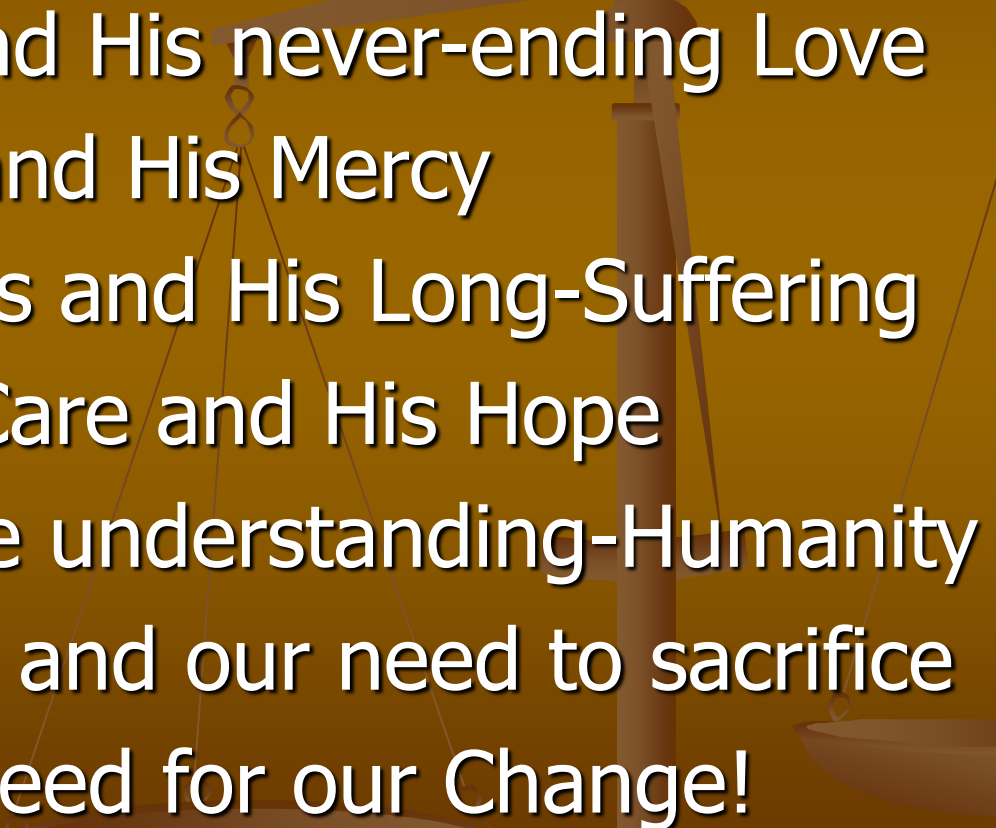
Should include:

- Praise Songs as well as Hymns
- Prayers (Not long but to the point)
- Include Testimonies of Faith (**Inmates too!**)
- Sermonettes (don't exceed 15 – 20 mins)
 - Non Doctrinal
 - Should be "Good News Message"
 - Relevant to Today



Worship Service - 3

Sermonettes should be tempered with:

1. God's Grace and His never-ending Love
 2. God's Justice and His Mercy
 3. His Forgiveness and His Long-Suffering
 4. His steadfast Care and His Hope
 5. God's complete understanding-Humanity
 6. God's Sacrifice and our need to sacrifice
 7. The ultimate need for our Change!
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Prison Baptisms





Fact...1

- Many of the offenders may never have gone to Church before
- Many of the offenders may never have had a their own Bible or knowledge of God
- Many of the offenders never have had a normal or proper functioning family

Fact...2

- Many of the offenders may experience God for the first time through YOU!
- You may be for many of the offenders...a proper picture of what a father, mother or sibling should be!
- You will be the embodiment of Christ, what He should be and represent.



**We Need Jesus
More Than
Ever!**

ISAIAH 45:22 K J V

**“Look unto
Me, and be ye
saved, all the
ends of the
earth: for I am
God, and there
is none else.”**



