



MILITARY EVANGELISM

THE MILITARY FELLOWSHIP CENTER

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EVERY SUNDAY

I had a place to preach every Sunday this month. This was a great blessing to me as preaching every Sunday is the thing I miss the most from my time in the pastorate. I preached at the Camp Johnson Chapel three times, the New River Chapel once, and at Greater Light Baptist one Sunday. Pastor James O'Brien has become a good friend, and it was a pleasure to visit with his folks in Lillington, NC and see their new church building. I am one of those preachers who loves to preach. I thank God for the opportunities and the blessings.

GROWTH

We have had another growth spurt at the Center. We had near record attendance at several meetings this month, including going over 30 on two Tuesdays! Our Marines are so wonderful at inviting their friends that I would be able to run this ministry without ever going on base. Several of the first-time visitors have quickly become regulars, and as I write this, I received a text from Yates, who has only been with us two weeks, to tell me he is bringing two with him tonight!

COUNSELING

I have had the opportunity to do a great deal of counseling this month. Many meetings in my office after our regular meeting around the dinner table have been fruitful. Twice I have given my "John Challenge" – to read the entire book of John and then come back to me with any questions. I am waiting on both to finish and sit down with me. One needs salvation, the other needs to find the way to follow Christ again after backsliding after enlistment, which is far too common in our Troops.

CAMP GEIGER MINISTRY

The ministry opportunity I told you about last month has started. I visited Lima Company on Camp Gieger three times this month. Several of the Marines there who are in holding awaiting adjudication of their medical or legal issues showed for my informal talks. I started in Proverbs 3:5 and have just kept going verse by verse, picking up each week where we left off previously. It is good practical advice for young men (and women) about who they should listen to, where they should go, and how they should think about their lives. This is not a ministry that I think will bear much fruit. Here, I am just planting the Gospel. The average Marine in this unit is only there for 2 months so I have little opportunity to build relationships. I am just scattering seed and trusting the Lord to bring the harvest wherever they may be when the Word finally penetrates their hearts.

NEW CHAPEL OPPORTUNITY

The ministry at Gieger has spawned yet another opportunity. The base Chaplain contacted me last week about preaching on base when they start a new chapel program in the command auditorium this September. I am already scheduled for four Sunday Chapel services this fall. Combined with the Chapel services I preach at Camp Johnson and MCAS New River, my Sundays will be full all fall. It is amazing what God brings to you when you are merely willing. I was not looking to start a ministry on Geiger, let alone pick up another Chapel to preach at. But God is faithful. Keep praying for us. I believe even more blessings are coming!


ROM 1:16