

# MILITARY EVANGELISM

## THE MILITARY FELLOWSHIP CENTER





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#### September 2023

#### CHAPEL

Over the last 3 years the Chapel Ministry at Camp Johnson has undoubtedly been the greatest miracle we have seen for this ministry. Each week we have met new Marine Students, young and fresh from boot camp, ready to train and enter the Fleet. Many of them have come to the Center, some have become regulars. Our Intern Nathan was a student at Johnson and met us at the Chapel. We have seen explosive growth at the Chapel. For the first 3 weeks of September though we had exactly 1 Marine attend Chapel. At the end of August every student regularly attending Chapel graduated in the same week. Without them bringing friends who would bring friends, we were stuck. At the end of the Sept. 17 service (which was just Patty and I, Nathan and his wife Micha and a retired Marine who attends) I led a prayer time where we all prayed for Students to come this week. We asked God for just 3 Marines or Sailors the next week. The next week we had 8 Sailors and 4 Marines at Chapel. God gave us 4 times more than we asked for! Pray with us that God would keep sending us new Marines and Sailors every week.

#### **COUNSELING MINISTRY**

The counseling ministry at the Center has been in a state of overdrive these last few months, especially in September. We have tried both successfully and unsuccessfully to help Marines and Sailors through their personal issues, and through issues that seem to be infecting their generation such as; bad relationships, sexual sins, alcohol and poor decision making. We are seeing more than a few young people come to us, stating they have received Christ as Savior, but who show little to no fruit, and are wracked with anxiety, depression and fear. Some have readily taken Biblical counsel and we are seeing great improvements in their personal walk and emotional stability. Others are stubborn, convinced of their own righteousness and their limited knowledge of Scripture, and are falling for some of the foulest doctrinal heresies you could imagine. Mostly because of wolves on YouTube preaching tickling sermons straight from Hell and deceiving many. Pray for these to stop listening to unbiblical teaching and to draw near to the truth.

#### **DOCTRINE**

As a way of combating these false teachings, on Tuesday nights we embarked at the start of the year on a teaching course I developed years ago on the Great Doctrines of the Bible. We finished the course this month. I am happy to report that many have grown through these simple lessons, and are asking for deeper teachings. I've given out more books this month concerning Doctrine than I can remember. Pray their hearts remain teachable. For as an old mentor of mine once said, "That's True Spirituality... Teachability." We start a Bible Survey series in January.

#### PREPPING FOR THE HOLIDAYS

As we head into October we begin our annual push to supply the Center for both our Thanksgiving Dinner and our Christmas Party. Our Thanksgiving Dinner this year will be on Sunday, Nov. 19. We always do the dinner on the Sunday before Thanksgiving so we can give those on duty Thanksgiving Day a chance to have a real meal, not served in a Styrofoam container. Our Christmas Party is always a highlight, as well as the Christmas Hayride at a local farm the week after the Party. We try to give each Marine plenty of presents at these times. Any help you can provide to make the holiday's special for our Troops is appreciated.

### **END OF YEAR GIFTS**

As you know, costs are up once again this year. Our utilities, insurances and the cost of food has really cut into our budget. Many of you make sacrificial end-of-year gifts and we are so very thankful for that. We would like to remind you that for us to legally give you a receipt for this year we must receive your gift by Dec. 31.

God is Faithful, and we are Thankful for all you do to support Military Evangelism.

# From The Kitchen Window

From the kitchen window I get to do alot of watching and waiting.

The watching is more than watching these hungry guys coming in and filling their plates with food, or seeing & hearing their apprectiation for it.

For almost 5 years, we have had Bob (not his real name) regularly attend our dinners and Bible Studies. Afterwards, he would go out to the clubs and such to live like the world. Gradually we saw change.

Now, over the last two years we have seen significant change. Faithfully he invites anyone he has contact with on base to come out for dinner and Bible Study. He regularly brings a car load of guests with him. Recently, he has shared his call to full time ministry.

We have been watching and waiting on the Lord. God has shown me if you continue to pray (watch) and wait on Him, He will reveal to us the details on what he is doing to answer our prayer.

