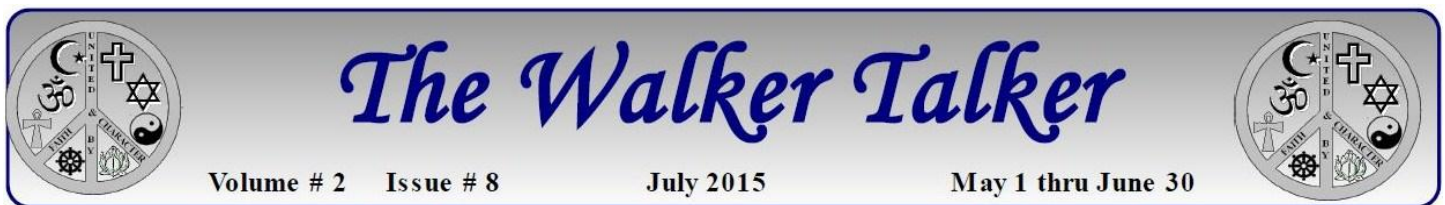




Congratulations to These Mentoring Partners! We learned this month that four of our mentoring partners at Walker State Prison (WSP) have been selected to attend the New Orleans Baptist Seminary (NOBTS) at Phillips State Prison. This four year program will allow these men to obtain a Bachelors of Arts (B.A.) degree in Christian Ministry. Previous graduates of this program have been assigned to assist and participate in Faith & Character Based opportunities within the inmate population at 22 prisons throughout the Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC) system. We pray that **Will Bryant, Victor Campbell, Damien Roberts,** and **Brian Small** are all used mightily by the LORD in this endeavor.



Latest Edition of “Walker Talker” Issue #8 of the WSP newsletter has been published and is chock full of interesting articles. Some hi-lites:

- **“Covenant & First Presbyterian Church Come Together” – page 3**
- **“All Eyes Are on You, Walker...”** – refers to our mentoring ministry as...”the epitome of a community coming together to make a difference in not only the lives of the inmates, but themselves as well.” – **page 5**
- **“Volunteer Spotlight on: Charlie & Mary Saunders”** – a wonderful article about one of our mentors and his wife’s efforts at WSP – **page 12**

To read this latest newsletter please visit our website (link below) and look in the lower right-hand column for “Walker Talker Newsletters”...click on issue #8.

<https://wspmentoringministryevents.shutterfly.com/>

Important Dates to Remember (also available on our website calendar);

- **August 8th** (Saturday) – New Mentor Training at 1st Presbyterian Church of Chattanooga
- **August 22nd** (Saturday) – GDC Volunteer Training at WSP (*reservations required*)
- **August 28th** (Friday) – Volunteer Appreciation Concert at WSP (*reservations required*)
- **August 31st** (Monday) – Crosspointe Christian Centre of Dalton Summer Choral Worship & Praise Service at WSP (no mentor session that Monday/Tuesday evening)
- **September 1st** (Tuesday) – **No** mentoring session (see above)
- **September 19th** (Saturday) – Fellowship Breakfast at Wally's in East Ridge... WSP Deputy Warden of Security Reagan Black to speak

Please contact your group leader or Doug Craven (cell# 423 902-2004) if you have any questions about these events.

Lessons Learned – **Letters of Recommendation** Recently we had a mentee that requested a letter of recommendation from his mentor. Just to be on the “safe side,” the mentor asked his group leader if this was acceptable. We have previously allowed letters of recommendation to be written when they involved businesses or churches so our initial reaction was to allow the request, but we double-checked with the chaplain. After further discussion with the chaplain and the mentor we learned that the letter was intended for a packet of documents to be presented to the parole review board. We, as mentors, are **not** to participate in the production of letters or documents intended to be presented to the parole review board. Letters of recommendation that can be mailed by you directly to a business or church are acceptable; just remember to be honest and only state facts that you know about your mentee. **Always remember, if you are not sure...ASK!**

HELP...I Missed my Mentoring Session? We have had some questions recently about how a mentor can “make up” a missed mentoring session. Some have missed a Monday or Tuesday session and quickly requested that they be added to the list of mentors planning to attend later that same week...on Tuesday or Thursday. Please understand that when you are approved to enter the prison you are assigned to a specific day of the week by a formal GDC process. Should you fail to attend on your scheduled weekday you always have the option to attend on the same weekday next week, with another group. Changing between weekdays requires a formal memo prepared by the chaplaincy department, approval by a deputy warden, and then incorporation of the requested changes into the security department's official access documents. All this takes time and resources from the prison. We have been asked to allow seven (7) days to accomplish such a change, therefore we strongly discourage swapping between weekdays just to “make up” a missed session. Your mentoring partner should understand that “life happens” and that you cannot always attend on your scheduled day. Help us minimize our administrative burden on the prison staff and let your mentoring partner know that if you miss, you'll try to make it up during the next week.



Free Study Bibles Ligonier Ministries (R. C. Sproul) offers to provide a free ESV Reformation Study Bible and a one year subscription to a monthly devotional magazine called "TableTalk" to any inmate who writes to them and requests such items. Their address is;

**Ligonier Ministries
421 Ligonier Ct.
Sanford, Fl 32771**

Here is a description of their offer - *Although we are limited in the amount of giveaway requests we can respond to, I am delighted to share with you a couple of FREE programs in which inmates may participate:*

(1) We carry the Reformation Study Bible, in paperback, for inmates. Along with the ESV version are numerous maps, study notes, cross indexes and book summaries to aid in a further understanding of God's Word. These are available upon request to inmates and are limited to one per prisoner.

(2) We also offer yearly subscriptions of our Tabletalk magazine at no charge to prisoners but they must ask for them as supplies can, at times, be limited. Along with monthly devotionals are insightful articles and offers in which they may be able to participate.

Visit their website at the link below if you need further information;

<http://www.ligonier.org/>

Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together. (Psalm 34:3)

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