



SIOC
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INTERNATIONAL

A MISSIONS MINISTRY EFFECTIVELY REACHING THE WORLD FOR CHRIST

409-504-6601

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THIS ISSUE:

CAMBODIA

Bringing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the prisons of Cambodia.

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Attention SOC Supporters

It has come to our attention that some of our Business Reply Envelopes have been returned to you with a label saying, "Return to sender attempt not know unable to return."

We have been working to find out the cause of this problem. First, we contacted our printer to see if the return envelopes' barcodes needed to be corrected. They were correct, so we notified the Post Office of our problem. After several trips to the main post office, we were instructed to inform the substation of our problem where our P O Box is located. After speaking to the postmaster at the substation, he identified the person responsible for our returned mail. We are now receiving mail from December, January, and February. If your donation was returned, you can resend it using the School of Christ International Business Reply Envelopes or mail it directly to P O Box 5470 - Beaumont, TX 77726.

Thanks for letting us know that we had a problem and being patient while we tried to resolve it. God bless you for your continued support of the School of Christ International. Brenda Turnage - Administrator

Testimony of Joshua Kelly

My name is Joshua Kelly, I was raised in East New Orleans with two siblings by our mom who was on welfare and food stamps. When I was very young, my parents fought constantly, and their fights were often very physical. Because of this, my parents separated, and my mother was left to raise me and my siblings on her own. My childhood was difficult, as there were days when we had no food, no electricity, no phone service, and no clean clothes.

My troubles really began one Christmas that I remember, I decided to start selling drugs. We went from having almost nothing to having what I thought was everything. I became well-known to everyone in my

neighborhood, and I was also very talented in sports. I then left my mom's house at 15 years old and moved into my own place. I had money, cars, respect, and I thought that everyone loved me. However, I would later find out that they only loved me because of what I could do for them. I gained the reputation of not playing around when it came to business.



Joshua Kelly

In 1993 things began to change for me,

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Open Door in Cambodia Prisons

The first time the Lord brought me to Cambodia was in 2011. Before this time, I had served with the School of Christ in China for many years, where several thousand Chinese pastors, leaders, and other ministers have been trained in the School of Christ. Brother Clendennen always taught us to be led by the Holy Spirit, so I followed the Holy Spirit to Cambodia.

We preached the Gospel with Cambodian missionaries in complex, poor, and remote regions of Cambodia, usually where other missionaries would not go. I also trained local pastors, missionaries, and leaders in the teachings of the School of Christ.

One day, something incredible happened. The Lord introduced me to an officer who worked in the Cambodian prisons. I preached the Gospel to him and told him my testimony of how God saved me in prison when I was twenty-one years old. I was already in prison for the third time, but God changed my life in one night. My testimony deeply touched the officer. He said that he had seen pastors come to the prison and minister, but he had never seen an ex-convict return to the prison to minister. He invited me to the prison where he worked to share my testimony with the convicts. My first visit was to see if any

prisoners would come to hear the Gospel preached. About fifty prisoners and prison administration staff went to the meeting. They listened carefully to my testimony and the Gospel, and the Holy Spirit worked in their hearts; many repented. The service so moved the prison workers that they asked me to come back the next day, and they would have two hundred prisoners there to hear the Gospel. Then, they brought another two hundred inmates to another service. There was an extraordinary presence of the Holy Spirit during each of these services.



The officers said that the whole prison should hear my testimony of repentance. I ministered the Gospel to fifteen hundred prisoners. A lot of them prayed the prayer of repentance. The Chief Commander of all the prisons in Cambodia came and listened to my testimony and message. In the end, he invited me to minister in all twenty-eight prisons in Cambodia. What a great miracle from God!

Since then, I have continued bringing the Gospel of Jesus to the prisons in Cambodia. In February 2023, I preached in three different prisons, where about fourteen hundred inmates heard the Gospel. Then, in December 2023, I preached in two other prisons where one hundred percent of the prisoners, about fifteen hundred, came to hear my testimony of God's great power to change people.



*SOC Fieldworker
Andrea Sekhin*

Praise God for His love and the miracle of the opened doors to the Cambodian prisons, where I could take the Gospel to the lost people. Brother Clendennen would be very pleased with this ministry, because I am a fruit of the School of Christ International. Through the ministry of Brother Clendennen, God has brought me to a new level of ministry to preach the School of Christ and the Gospel in China, Cambodia, Mongolia, Myanmar, and Iran.

I was also able to preach the Gospel in two remote and poor areas in between my ministering in the prisons. About five hundred adults and four hundred children heard the Gospel for the first time. Many accepted Christ.



Testimony...

I was arrested for armed robbery and was sentenced to 65 years in the Louisiana State Penitentiary (Angola Prison). When I first arrived in Angola Prison, I continued to do what I was doing on the streets, but now God was beginning to speak to me. As God was dealing with me, I began to go to Church, and I stopped selling drugs. The Lord began to pour out His blessings upon me, one after another, and even old relationships were restored. Though I experienced God moving in my life, I was still not completely sold out to Him.

I was eventually transferred to the Elayn Hunt Correctional Center, where I was going to assist in implementing an Inmate Reentry Program. While at Hunt Prison, I escaped and was subsequently taken back into custody. Because of my escape, I was sent back to Angola Prison and placed in CCR (Close Cell Restricted) which is in the Death Row Camp. I had lost everything, even the past relationships that had previously been restored. It was when I had lost everything, that I turned to God and began to pray more than I had ever prayed before. I began to pray for God to give me a second chance at freedom.

God completely changed my life when I met Pastor Marty Harden and the ministry of the School Of Christ while in the CCR Unit. I had little

to no faith at that time, and I had not recognized the many times that God had saved my life while I was on the streets and in jail. I enrolled in the SOC, and as they brought the Word of God to me and demonstrated the nature of God Himself, it began to bring joy back into my life. The SOC kept me fed spiritually during my hungriest times, and it guided me through many situations that I faced. I was becoming a better person, and my faith was growing stronger.

As time passed, during one of Pastor Marty's visits, I asked him to baptize me. It was a little bit of a process to get the necessary permission from the Prison officials, but we were eventually granted permission. I was still in the CCR unit on the day that Pastor Marty came to baptize me. The guards placed restraints on my hands and feet, to then escort me to the makeshift baptistry in the yard. It was difficult to get into the baptistry with the restraints on, but they eventually convinced the guards to take off the restraints on my feet. However, they would not remove the hand restraints. I was then able to get into the baptistry, and Pastor Marty began the baptism. Pastor Marty put me under the water, and when I came up again the restraints had fallen off my hands! That was God giving me the confirmation, that He had forgiven me, and had set me free from everything! As the guards were escorting me back to my cell, they began to try and say that the

restraints were just old, but there was no way they would ever use old restraints on Death Row! When God does something amazing that only He can do, there will always be someone trying to say otherwise. But I know what God did, I experienced His freeing power that day!

Sometime later I was up for parole and let me tell you how God works. Never in the history of Louisiana had a Judge, District Attorney, several Wardens, a Pastor, and many other prominent people advocated on behalf of a guilty man for parole to be granted. But I was the first one! God brought me out and gave me freedom! God is never done working; He deals with each of us daily. The good news is that He does not get tired, nor does He sleep! God sees everything and He hears everything, and He can do for you what He did for me!

You can be just like me; you just have to make the right choice. God gives us all a choice and it is never hard to make the right choice, just let God guide your footsteps. My past is not my future, I cannot forget my past, nor do I want to, because I know I can use it to help you. This is my story, this is my change, this is my life! Remember, God is not facts, God is Truth! There is only One Living God, and He has been so good to me!

Cambodia...



Thank God for opening doors to preach the Gospel. We must hurry in our work for the Lord because

these doors could close at any time. Jesus taught us to preach the Gospel to the ends of the Earth and make disciples; the School of Christ is a good tool for this purpose.

Thank you so much to all the co-laborers who support the ministry of the School of Christ International!


Andrea Sekhin



School of Christ International
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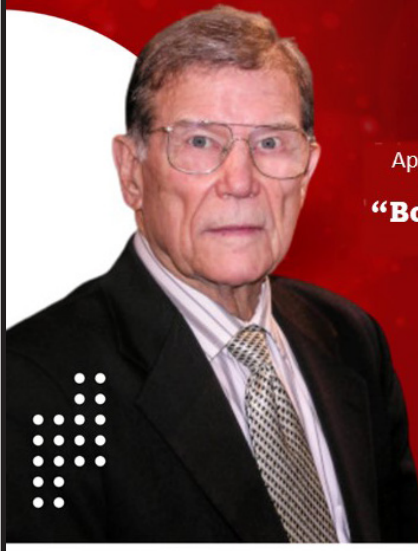
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