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The Washers

Dear Friends and Family,

After about 9,000 miles on our trip out to west Texas, we are back home in SC! Praise the Lord for safety! As always, our family has jumped right back into being busy at our home church. I have already preached twice to the teens and will be preaching in the morning service this coming Sunday. Emily is helping with the kids classes. Ethan is teaching the teen Sunday School class and is a leader with the team competitions on Wednesday nights throughout the summer. All the boys are enjoying a "normal" summer with friends, summer jobs and no school!

We are looking forward to getting back on the road in September with some new states opening their prisons to us. North Carolina will have both a state and federal prison allowing us in. Virginia is slowly opening to us with 1 or 2 events. Some prisons in WI have asked us to come and hold some events in "youthful offenders" facilities. We've only done one juvenile tournament in the past so

Smith Unit (Lamesa, TX)--We are so thankful for 3 staff members from Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring, TX who took their Saturday to minister to the inmates! It was a bit hot out in the TX sun but they are used to it. There were around 45 guys who played and listened very intently to the gospel message. Praise the Lord for the inmates who were impacted by the good news of Jesus! Here are couple testimonies. "I needed to hear this message and now I know Jesus is all I need." "The message allowed me to open my eyes to forgiveness and realized how much God loves me."

Travis County Prison Unit (Austin, TX)--How exciting to take in such a great group of volunteers from 3 local churches. Three of the men were the pastors of those churches! AND, one of those pastors was an official basketball referee and did a great job all day. Praise the Lord for the 65 or so men that did a great job of respecting the preaching of Gods Word with 3 of the men responding to the work of the Holy Spirit!

Polluck Federal Prison--(Pollock, LA)--I previously reported that our ministry was in a federal prison for the first time ever a couple months ago. I was wrong according to the staff from this prison. That prison in TX was a holding facility and privately run. Pollock is one of over 100 facilities in the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Like, the US government. Like, the real deal this time. Our first federal facility. In fact, it's the 2nd highest security federal prison in all of the US! I have to confess that I had tears in my eyes after hearing that and realizing how far God has brought ITL—from a small minimum security prison in IL to a high security federal prison in LA. Our contact for the day actually found our ministry info on Google and invited us. The assistant warden came out during the tourney, was thrilled with it and told me that they have ways of getting the word out to the other Federal Prisons for us to hold events around the nation. The staff have invited us back and want us to take more time to hold even more events next time. We held 2 tournaments at 2 sections of the prison—one outside and one in a gym. As the outside tourney was wrapping up and the staff was taking pics of the winning team a fight started across the prison yard (not our guys). As is protocol when there is a fight, the guards in the tower about 100 yards away dropped a flash bang device to stun the inmates (very loud with smoke). That was a first for me. It was a good heart check. All the players laughed at me for the look on my face. No big deal, they're used to it. The gospel was preached to around 125 total inmates for both events with many men turning to Christ for salvation. Here a few of their testimonies. "I

it's never too late." "No matter who I am or what I did I can be saved." "I feel cleansed of all my sin by accepting Jesus as my Savior." "The message today gave me hope that God gave His only Son to die for my sins and through His blood shed I am forgiven for my sins."

Notes from inmates--One of the reasons we went to TX this spring was because TX inmates are allowed to communicate directly with me by way of email. No other state allows that. I am trying to keep up with all the men that have written back to me after sending them an email after we left. Receiving emails from the inmates has a major part in encouraging us as we travel the nation. Our thoughts are, "If this one inmate was impacted this much by our being there let's go to more and see God work again."

Here is the story and testimony of one of the inmates in TX this semester who was greatly impacted by the Word of God. He was a finalist on American Idol (verified) several years ago and then committed a crime to land in prison on a 4 year sentence. He thought he had the world but needed Jesus. Praise the Lord!! "When I was in my early 20's, I was enjoying and overly indulging in the earthly rewards of 'success' from the few accomplishments I achieved in the music business. I was worshiped and idolized by a few thousand people and I let it get to my head. I achieved too much, too fast, and was surrounded by leeches and yes men. I got out of control. Obviously the basketball aspect of your visit was exhilarating for all of us, but I think the real game changer was the way you presented the gospel of Jesus Christ. I will absolutely never forget it...I can't thank you enough, because this will have generational impact on my family and there's no telling how God may use me now. I grew up around the name of Jesus, I even served in His name, but you helped me to see and hear that it was never going to be enough. The ONLY salvation is through the atonement of Jesus Christ. I was attempting to make Him my Lord without truly accepting Him as my Savior. That's what changed."

Another note of encouragement from an inmate in west Texas:

"We thank you a bunch because us being out here in the middle of nowhere and it being a small unit not much ministry's come here so it meant alot. I'm not sure if you remember me I had asked you about why do I keep doing things I don't want to do " one step forward five steps back " you had told me to read Romans well I started reading the Much More book and when you wrote "undoubtedly, you have struggled to figure out how to live a godly life a godly

with it tell your family thank you for me for supporting you and traveling every where while you preach the good news it means a lot to us."

Peru Trip--We will leave you in suspense about our trip to Peru. All of us boys had an incredible time ministering with the Fitzgerald family and will write about it in the next update. We've already been told our updates are super long...haha!

Thank you so much for your faithful support!
Thank you for your kindness and encouragement!

Jonathan, Emily, Ethan, Hudson and Austin Washer

Schedule

August 28-29, 2026--Federal Correctional Institution (Butner, NC)
September 4, 2026--Buckingham Correctional Center (Dillwyn, VA)
September 12, 2026--Ohio Prison
September 19--Indiana Prison
September 26-October 17, 2026--Wisconsin Prisons



Our youngest son sends you his greetings.



Just when you thought you've seen it all at prison something like this happens. The volunteers were preparing to go into prison when a horse decided to join us. We thought it belonged to the prison. After all, some prisons train dogs and have

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came from and it was just wandering around. We had to retreat to our vehicles at one point because it started biting us!

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