



# The Florida Prison Evangelist

Summer 2025



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## Let Freedom Ring

On Memorial Day, the Carters welcomed the men from the transition house into their home for a fun-filled meal. It is always an encouragement for us when we can get together. Joining the fun are two men who were recently released from the Department of Corrections.

Pictured from left to right are Kevin Ogden and Scott Rector. Kevin and Christopher met almost two years ago at the Reception & Medical West Unit (RMC). After studying, Kevin concluded that he needed to obey the gospel and was added to the body of Christ on July 20, 2023. Kevin was released on May 24 and is now employed at Whitley Steele. Scott and Christopher met in the fall of 2022, also at RMC West. After learning the truth, Scott crucified the old man on October 22, 2022. Scott is a jack-of-all-trades and is currently working in the construction industry.

Christopher continued to counsel these men at various institutions over the past years and was excited to help them secure a room at the transition house. Well...almost! There was no room for Kevin, so a make-shift room was created for him. Kevin was determined that our transition house was where he needed to be, room or no room, and he wasn't going to be deterred. Both of these men are working on themselves and reconciling relations with their children. We are happy to be a small part of their journey!

## Reaching Masses ~ edovo!

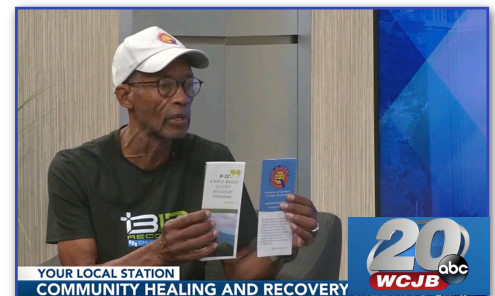
In May 2025, World Video Bible School (WVBS) launched its Bible curriculum on the edovo platform. This platform is an educational application that is available on prisoner tablets nationwide. As of mid-May, from the Bible-based courses that WVBS has loaded to edovo, over 60,000 lessons have been completed. The WVBS Bible School curriculum encompasses every book of the Bible, as well as a selection of additional subjects. All courses are self-paced and can be studied at your convenience, with no set start or end time. Each course can earn a certificate of completion upon successful completion. Ten of 43 courses have been loaded into the Edovo system, with the remaining courses scheduled to become available before the end of 2025.

## Reaching Masses ~ Pando!

Our channel on the Pando application has now garnered over 2.5 million views from approximately 130 videos. We are also pleased to announce the launch of our podcast, which is now accessible to all prisoners. If you would like to view a sample of this podcast, go to our Facebook page and check out our April 26 post.

## The Community

We thank Bro Joe DeBose, who diligently works for our Lord in and out of prison. Joe was recently on WCJB 20, an abc affiliate, highlighting his effort to take prison teachings involving addiction, to the local community to change lives.



## Prison Ministry Spotlight

Chain gang life is tough, and while we have no control over when men are released from it, we certainly do our best to help free them from Satan's chain. This work is made possible through the collaboration of faithful brethren. This quarter, we highlight Austin Trout. Austin came to us when we were reporting and asking for volunteers at the Chaffee Road church of Christ. Austin is a tremendous blessing, and while we could say more, we will let him speak for himself.

"Hello, my name is Austin Trout. I'm 26 years old, I have eight fingers, and I enjoy fishing and playing board games (not the simple ones like Monopoly). I obeyed the gospel on January 22, 2022. Since that day, I've been faithfully attending the Chaffee Road church of Christ, where I've had the privilege to serve in various ways—leading songs, teaching the teen Sunday school class, and helping wherever I can. I also volunteer at a camp called *Hands to Love*, which serves kids with limb differences, and I serve as an assistant football coach at a local high school.



"My main areas of study—both before and after obeying the gospel—are **salvation** and **apologetics**. If you've read *Muscle and a Shovel*, you'll understand what I mean when I say, *I used to cut the ham in half*—and that's why I'm passionate about helping others come to God. I'm incredibly thankful that Christopher Carter came to speak at my congregation about his mission. Without that visit, I probably would have never set foot in a prison. Since then, I've genuinely enjoyed shadowing and leading the classes I've been part of. I pray that God will continue to open doors, allowing me to learn more and serve more, whether in prison ministry or wherever the Lord leads me.

"To conclude, I would like to share two moments related to the topic of prison ministry—one that I heard and one that I witnessed—both of which I can only describe as beautiful. I heard: *"Many people want to go on mission trips and help others in different countries, but they forget about the mission field in their backyard—our prisons."* I witnessed: One night, we had approximately 35 men attend the chapel. They said they were told that they could either go to the chapel or eat dinner, but not both. They chose the chapel!"

## Crisson Lee Carter

For all who are wondering, Crisson was born on April 1, no April fools! He weighed 8 lbs. 1 oz at 21.26 inches. Sondra and Christopher thank everyone for their love and support. This picture was taken on May 24.



## Save the Date

On Thursday, September 18th, at 6:15 PM, at the University City church of Christ, we will be hosting a Prison Ministry Appreciation and Fellowship Dinner. We would like to appreciate those who work with us, on the front line and in forward support. This will be a complimentary dinner, and it promises to be a wonderful evening of food and fellowship. Contributions are always welcome, but are not required. More details to come...

