

Committee on Christian Science Work in Los Angeles County Institutions

“...I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.” (Matt.25:36)

November 2022

FRUITAGE TO READ AT A WEDNESDAY EVENING MEETING:

On Page 243 of *Twelve Years with Mary Baker Eddy* (AMPLIFIED), Irving Tomlinson writes of Mrs. Eddy: “Her interest in prison work never flagged.” And, “Frequently Mrs. Eddy received letters from various parts of the Field telling of the good accomplished in the prisons through Christian Science services. So interested was she in having this work made known that she often sent such letters to the Concord Church to be read at the Wednesday evening meeting, and then had them forwarded to the Christian Science periodicals for publication.”

It is in this spirit that we're sending our own examples and asking that they be read at a Wednesday testimony meeting.

Many individuals have mentioned that these testimonies have been very helpful to them after having heard them at a testimony meeting. They don't all need to be read on the same evening. We are enlarging the type and using both sides of the page so as to make it easier to read.

We would appreciate it if the speaker (from the floor) identifies that the fruitage is coming from the work of our Committee, **The Committee on Christian Science Work in Los Angeles County Institutions**, and not just prison work in general. This gives people an appreciation of the work that this Committee is doing. Thus: One of our Chaplains reports....

→ I'm grateful to offer Christian Science literature to the men in Twin Towers and Men's Central Jail. We all love this quote from Science and Health by Mrs. Eddy, "Millions of unprejudiced minds — simple seekers for Truth, weary wanderers, athirst in the desert — are waiting and watching for rest and drink." When you serve in the jail you realize this is really true. Many of the men look forward to receiving magazines and Bible Lessons every couple weeks. They are so appreciative of the literature. I'm the only chaplain of any denomination that goes to this floor consistently so I get lots of thanks from them. It's wonderful to see the progress of those in the jails and hearing how steadfast they are in improving their lives by getting a better understanding of God. Thanks to everyone who contributes to this work. There are many ways to help out and we'd love to have more involved in this fruitful work.

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➔ Frequent requests for church services by the men at North County Correctional Facility, opened thought to provide mini church services, about 10 -15 minutes each. My co-worker selected a few passages from the Bible and S&H with the inspirational theme of the “Importance of Gratitude.” The officer in charge gave us permission to read the inspirational message to the men. The men called it “church behind bars. Two chairs were provided for us, while men stood behind the long row of bars and listened very attentively. I began by sharing these words from hymn 249 from the CS Hymnal “gratitude is riches, complaint is poverty...” Following the inspirational message, a few minutes were given to the men to express their gratitude in one or two sentences. The men responded appropriately and were filled with wonderful expressions of sincere appreciation for our coming. We gave six mini church services to eight pods. The next week we went to a different module and were given permission to present the mini-services again. The interest in expressing gratitude seemed longer. As we were leaving, my co-worker apologized for the length, the officer responded with joy “It was just perfect! We had time to go to a different module and were able to give a total of nine mini church services that Thursday. In total we gave 15 church services before Thanksgiving as well as a lot of CS literature focusing on Thanksgiving and the importance of being grateful. It was such a joyful experience filled with great inspiration, love and gratitude. I am very grateful for everyone who contributes to this work.

Note: to find out more about this work or to join our monthly fruitage meetings, please go to prayerthatheals.org/institutions or email cs_la_ci@yahoo.com