

WHAT IS A CURRICULUM-BASED MINISTRY?

NewLife Behavior Ministry (NLB) has been described as a “curriculum-based” ministry since its beginning in 1984 by Dr. H.M. Motsinger in Dallas, Texas. The NLB curriculum is constantly expanding, being updated and translated into more and more languages. It is utilized in over 40 states in this nation and in nearly 30 foreign countries all over the world.

What is meant when we say that NLB is a *curriculum-based* ministry?

First and foremost, we engage in the research and development of cognitive behavioral tools to be used by volunteer instructors in a variety of settings with youth and adults (churches, schools, jails, prisons, boot and work camps, substance abuse treatment programs and other community efforts).

Secondly, we publish and distribute the curriculum as widely as possible. The best curriculum in the world accomplishes zero unless it is used. Users receive a set of course “originals” and an individually numbered *license* in exchange for a small donation which entitles them to lifetime reproduction privileges.

Thirdly, we seek to train committed instructors in the use of the curriculum. All courses include an *Instructor’s Guide* and formal “proposal” for its use. Regional Directors are available for training in addition to special workshops and seminars. Other training materials and tools are being developed.

Fourthly, we seek to translate the curriculum into every language possible. The first eight courses (plus the *Children’s Edition*) have already been translated into Spanish, Russian and Chinese.

Thus, NLB is not just a *prison ministry*. The NLB curriculum, however, can be (and often *is*) utilized effectively by prison ministries. It has numerous other applications. More and more congregations are using NLB courses in their regular Bible School classes.

The NLB curriculum is most often used in the United States in prison ministries in the following ways:

Juvenile Detention Facilities	County Jails
State Prisons	Federal Prisons
Substance Abuse Programs	Parolee Programs
After-Care Programs	Youth/Family Ministries

NLB is a *curriculum-based* ministry and as such, is not in competition with the many and varied prison ministries around the world. Of course, we are delighted to see the NLB curriculum increasingly used by instructors in a wide variety of successful ministries.