

NEWLIFE BEHAVIOR MINISTRIES, WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL, HOME MISSIONS

By Buck Griffith & H.M. Motsinger

In August 1984 Dr. H.M. Motsinger, an educator and counselor, accepted the call to write a curriculum to assist prison inmates to change their attitudes and actions. The curriculum's success led to the foundation of the *NewLife Behavior Ministry*. In 1993 a curriculum called *FamilyNet* was added to help inmates, their wives and children. In 1994, The Texas Department of Criminal Justice endorsed its placement in all Texas prisons and certified training was offered. In 1997 NLB won the Governor George Bush Award was the Best State Jail program in Texas.

In 2002 Buck Griffith was named President of NLBM and in 2008, Dr. Motsinger formed NewLife Behavior International to expand the curriculum use in other countries. Since then, workers in over 40 countries have requested a copy of the free CD with the NLB curriculum. Formal programs are underway in Russia, Zambia, Nigeria, South Africa, Ukraine, Philippines, and Mexico – often using World Bible School lessons as companion materials. In these nations, the curriculum may be used in prisons, universities, high schools, orphanages and churches.

In the United States NLB is used primarily in congregations, prisons and with family members of prisoners. *Regional Directors* serve throughout Texas, Alabama, Louisiana, Indiana, Oklahoma, Kansas, Florida, Kentucky, Ohio, and North Carolina. States such as Oklahoma and Alabama have organized statewide to increase the impact throughout the penal systems.

NLB training is offered at the Annual/National Jail & Prison Ministry Workshop. At such meetings the latest National Directory of Churches of Christ & Individual Christians Involved in Jail/Prison Ministries is shared to improve follow-up networking for new Christians and others being released. This Directory can be obtained at any time from NLB. Training is also done by *Regional Directors* and even by correspondence.

The growth of churches of Christ and individuals involved is staggering, as shown by the annual numbers reported in the Directory:

1978: 24 Churches of Christ and 110 Individual Christians Involved
1986: 280 Churches of Christ and 375 Individual Christians Involved
1993: 481 Churches of Christ and 698 Individual Christians Involved
2007: 842 Churches of Christ and 1795 Individual Christians Involved
2020: 1,023 Churches of Christ and 2258 Individual Christians Involved

Buck Griffith states: "Conservatively speaking, 10,000 prisoners are baptized each year in the U.S. by these diligent works."

Through an agreement between NLBM, World Bible School and HomeMissions teachers may obtain a license to use each NLB course for \$20 plus shipping. The license allows them to print unlimited copies from a CD. Contact NLB's central office in Corpus Christi, Texas: 3833 S. Staples, Suite S-101, 78411 for details.

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