

# **Doing For The Least Ministries, Inc.**

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The purpose of this presentation is to introduce Doing For The Least Ministries, Inc. and acquaint you with our program and its current status.

Our Mission Statement: To meet the spiritual and emotional needs of people coming from jails, prison, probation, Drug Court, in nursing homes, hospitals. This is done through Biblical teaching, counseling and encouragement.

## Our World Problem/An Old Answer

To begin with I want to address our world's present problem and needed answer. Our world situation could be described as an old house falling apart. Seeing the house, the rafters are sagging, the exterior walls are shifting, and the windows are shattering. Inside the floor is falling in, the walls are sagging, items on the walls are falling, furniture is falling into the hole in the floor. The entire house is caving in. One looks outside under the house, and the entire house is caving into a void under the house, the bedrock has been taken out. A great horrific site!

Thus our world has such a void in it. Our social system is corrupt, government is corrupt, families are torn apart and dysfunctional, drugs and alcohol abuse, child abuse, and sexual abuse is rampant. Although many descriptions could be added, our world /country is like the old house it's falling into a void/ a hole. Someone has taken the bedrock out from under the house. Our world is caving in, what was filling the void?

## **GOD**

Our society has taken God and Faith in Him out of our world. His authority and power has been disowned, rejected and our world is falling apart. Thus the answer is returning to faith in GOD. Until we restore God / Christ centered beliefs back into society we will continue to fall into this void. It is impossible for one person or ministry to address this major problem, but we together as Christians can deal with our own part.

Doing For The Least Ministries in South Texas is attempting to do just that, do our part. This ministry offers support groups to people with drug

addictions, and people coming out of prisons, people with personal and family problems. DFTL presents the Faith principle of scripture to address this problem on the local field. The principles of faith and biblical concepts are used to deal with behavior, various addictions and the lies we believe.

The CASA (Christians Against Substance Abuse) and The Belief and Behavior Support Groups are the instruments that are used to deal with these life controlling problems of our day. The approach is an age-old answer;

## **THE BIBLE**

Where we began.....

In the mid 90's I attended several classes in mental health at a junior college in Corpus Christi. I began seeing a vast amount of social and spiritual problems. I had my Bible /Ministry training in Dallas and private studies later a few years before so I was sensitive to what was going on as I saw mental illnesses, drug addictions, mental retardation, problems with aging, and health problems. At the same time I was involved in the CASA program and began to see the crime and drug problems as well as those in prison and juvenile detentions.

I started my ministry by going into juvenile detentions and the Three Rivers Prison and began to realize someone could develop a ministry out of all these problems. So, since I was looking for ministry the Lord told me get after it. Thus began "Get Real Ministries" in 1994. In 2002, we formed a non-profit Texas corporation, Doing For The Least Ministries, Inc., which was granted a 501(c)(3) status by the IRS.

The ministry has focused on meeting the spiritual and emotion needs of people in jail, prison, juvenile facilities, and nursing homes. Moving to Alice in 2003, we focused on working with ex-offenders and jail work. As the years went by I saw that an ex-offender had many problems that this ministry was unable to address, other than support groups.

In 2007, we established a relationship with the Drug Court in Alice. This brought us a significant increase in the number of persons we are able to minister to. Drug Court is a program of the county court system that allows a person with addiction, drug charges, DWI, or possession to drop their charges if they take the program.

Where we are now...

We are ministering to people from drug court, probation, and those on parole. Since mid 2007 to the end of 2008, 61 came through. In 2009 there were 45. Since January 2010 through Spring 2010, 14 new participants have come from Drug Court. The total, including a few non-Drug Court, that we have been able to teach from mid 2007 to the Spring of 2010 is 120 people. As we approach November of 2010, we have had 81 total that have or came through our group sessions. 23 of those either graduated the program or dropped out, leaving 58 still coming with 8 of those continuing on from 2009. So that makes 50 new attendees for the 2010 year alone.

These numbers are based on the estimates for October 2010. Some are staying the 9 to 12 month period while a few are coming once or only a few times. The turnaround with the ministry since 2007 has been the reason I have continued going with this ministry effort. This number doesn't represent a commitment to the church, but reveals that the seed has been, and is being, planted, and these individuals are beginning a journey of faith that will get them to the point of true conversion and commitment to Christ.

The approach.....

### CASA SUPPORT GROUP

(Christians Against Substance Abuse)

### BELIEF AND BEHAVIOR GROUP

Belief Therapy – Aims at the Belief System behind addictive compulsive behavior. Program focuses on using faith concepts and Biblical principles by using the Word of God to deal with life controlling problems in our world.

■ *People Do What They Do Because They Believe What They Believe*

#### Topics :

- *The Faith Idea, Believe God*
- *View of God, Who Jesus Is*
- *Authority of Jesus, Foundation On the Rock*
- *Belief, Thought, Feelings, Behavior*
- *Matthews Recovery Book*
- *John' Recovery Book*
- *What He Accomplished*

What I am aiming at is to give these the faith that changes the behavior behind the addictions. I am attempting to build into their lives a belief system or give them a foundation to build their lives on that can endure the

life controlling problems that attack them. The purpose is to instill into them power instead of powerlessness, and hope and peace, rather than hopelessness and fear that haunts them. The grace and power of God's word and the Gospel of His Son can bring that power to them.

### **But... Where are we Going ?**

While this ministry has grown some, the task of doing even our part of addressing the needs of that falling world is extensive.

The vision expands:

- More extensive work with participants from Drug Court, probation and parolees and their families is needed.
- Extend outreach to Juveniles & Homeless
- Encourage involvement in Church Fellowship
- Develop a Center - A place for groups, fellowship, counseling, providing primary needs, assist in job searches etc. Offer curriculum from New Life Behavior to Families.

A vision is what God puts on the hearts of His people, but it takes faith in His purpose to step out into that vision.

### **How do we get there?**

Primary Needs to Accomplish this Ministry:

- Prayers for the success of the ministry's work
- Servants to carry out the task
- Servant/leaders to step up and help guide the ministry's efforts
- Funding from...
  - Individuals
  - Businesses
  - Funding Opportunities Drive Letters
    - Annual Fund Drive Oct. 1 –Dec. 31
    - Living Honor
    - Memorials
    - In lieu of Christmas gifts

Ministry contribution address: Doing for the Least Ministries  
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\*\*\*\*\* *A Little From Many Accomplishes Much!*\*\*\*\*\*