



William Peter Bernard

June 15, 1950 - October 28, 2013

A memorial Service for Chaplain Bernard was held by his family and friends at the Okmulgee County Jail on Saturday morning, November 2, 2013 at 11:00 A.M.

Tribute Wall



“ *William Peter Bernard*

December 20, 2022 at 11:29 AM



“ *Pete always had a kind word and a prayer for others. Glad he is with Jesus... but sad he is not here. God Bless his family. He touched so many lives with goodness and Gods love.*



Lisa Woodward - November 12, 2013 at 11:54 AM

“ Chaplain Pete Bernard, my friend, who was a counseling father to many many inmates over the last 18 years. He was my ministering partner who taught me a lot about the jail ministry, Chaplain Pete Bernard had a heart for inmates, he called them his children. We spent many hours together traveling to facilities with which he was familiar : Jess Dunn, Eddie Warrior and John C Lilley prisons, plus countless Friday evenings we would go upstairs to Okfuskee County Jail and visit his buddies behind bars- ministering the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all that wanted to hear.

A friend had given me a huge-weathered-heavily highlighted bible which had very large print, the largest font known to man. After many months of reading and praying about what The Lord wanted me to do with it I finally brought it along on our Friday night visit to Okfuskee County jail.

I asked Chaplain what he thought about how we could use it to minister/

He told me to let the Holy Spirit be my guide.

That night, we discussed scripture and prayed with the inmates and true to Chaplain fashion he asked them all the following: “Is there anyone here that needs special prayer or has any special needs?”

“Well,” a timid voice came from the back of the room “I can’t read these bibles, I need one I can read, they broke my glasses when they arrested me, I can only read real large print! Do you have a Large Print Bible I can have?” A miracle!

From Chaplains briefcase came glasses-bibles pencils which he purchased himself or with donations.

Chaplain counseled a boy one time who, while crying aloud to him, “I’m only 21 years old and they told me yesterday they want to give me 20 years. Plus, another twenty for my other charge that I must do after the first 20 is done. I’m going to be 60 years old when I get out.

Chaplain prayed with the distraught man and told him to consider the many hundreds of cases across the nation just like his. Kids that are going away for years and years. Chaplain continued, “Pray for

them” “Pray for anyone in a similar situation such as yours and when we come back next week you can tell us what happened.” That next Friday we returned ,, he was beyond excitement, jumping up and down and as Chaplain describes “blowin snot and tears.. “ They told me at a special hearing” he said “they were only going to give me time served, so this last 10 months here in Okfuskee is time served, I’m done, I’m free” That man named Shane, we have not seen return.

*So long my friend,
Pete Goodwin*

Pete Goodwin - November 09, 2013 at 09:01 AM



Becky Prescott

Thank you so much for sharing that,...I was always amazed..caught off guard...convicted ..exhorted ..loved ..accepted...all of that at once by statements he would make to me when least expected....perhaps like the spirit of Elijah or Elisha. You could always count on him to speak the truth in love and not hold back or sugar coat or dilute his message....we all who knew him experienced the Jesus suit that Pete wore outside the jails as well as inside them.

Becky Prescott - November 14, 2013 at 09:01 AM

JS

“ *Juliene Stone lit a candle in memory of William Peter Bernard*



Juliene Stone - November 08, 2013 at 05:13 PM

JA

“Pete will forever be remembered by all of the lives he touched. He had the chance to work for God and an awesome job he did indeed. Only Jesus knows how many lives Pete touched through all his years of ministry work and he is now living out his reward in Heaven with God, Jesus and all the angels! Pete finally has his rest and peace that he so richly deserved. I pray that every life that was touched by Jesus through Pete's work for him is truly blessed. And may God in Heaven above get all the Glory. For we all know now that Pete is in his eternal Jesus suit! Love you Pete and miss you dearly! Thanks for all the good times and fun laughs! Thanks for letting us be a part of the ministry at the jail. It was a blessing to know you and do the Lords work with you! See you again one day, this is not goodbye just merely a see you later! For your life did not end, it is only just now beginning! Save us a spot down front!

Jesse, Jerree & Olivia Alexander - November 02, 2013 at 10:30 PM

JN

“John Newport lit a candle in memory of William Peter Bernard



John Newport - November 02, 2013 at 02:02 AM

CS

“I'm so very sorry for your loss. I saw Pete a lot at the place where I work and he never left there until he made sure to tell us all what a great job we were doing. He was a special man and is now healthy and whole again in the arms of his Lord. He will be missed.

Carla Slape - November 01, 2013 at 10:49 PM

AL

“ *Alexanders sent a virtual gift in memory of William Peter Bernard*



Alexanders - November 01, 2013 at 08:57 AM

AL

“ *Alexanders sent a virtual gift in memory of William Peter Bernard*



Alexanders - November 01, 2013 at 08:57 AM



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McClendon-Winters Funeral Home - October 31, 2013 at 10:47 AM

JA

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Jesse, Jerree & Olivia Alexander - October 31, 2013 at 09:39 AM

KD

“ I loved Pete. He was one of the people I looked up to growing up. With my great grandparents moving next door to him was just perfect. I'd always sit outside waiting for him to come home and I run up to his van and give him a hug. He would call me his lil buddy. I really wish I could have seen him more these past few years. I always told myself when I get my license I'd go to the jail and just visit Pete. But no I sadly can't. Pete my sisters and I find it hard to believe that you're now gone. I'm glad you're in a place where you will smile every second for the rest of eternity. Even though you already smiled everyday. Seeing you Pete and getting the privilege to know you has made my life better. I thank you Pete for being the man you were. And I won't ever forget you. I love you Ol' Friend.

Korey Dearman - October 30, 2013 at 08:09 PM

JG

“ pete was a faithful and loyal friend he has done alot though the community plus march for jesus and prison ministry he has been a friend of the family for many many years hope to meet him at home one day we all love u and miss u brother pete mike smith and family.

josh gilmore - October 30, 2013 at 07:53 PM

JA

“ We have been doing jail ministry with Pete for a couple of years now. Pete was more than just the Chaplin. He was a very dear friend and brother. He was family to us. Pete I know you are in Heaven at Jesus's feet as I am writing this. I wish I could see your mansion, I'm sure it's spectacular although you always said you'd never spend anytime there. I hope you are learning all you ever wanted to know! We miss you but we know that you are happy and running around now! Love you brother!!

Jesse, Jerree & Olivia Alexander - October 30, 2013 at 06:54 PM

MG

“ I came to know Brother Pete as a Mother of a Juvenile Delinquent- 16 years ago Pete picked me up at the airport as I flew in to gather my daughter from the authorities. He and my brother were the only ones allowed to visit her during her troubled times. Although with a rough exterior-I could always sense love and understanding in his eyes. I'm happy you are in your Redeemer's home. God has a huge smile on His face-Welcome Home Brother Pete!!

Mary Goodwin - October 30, 2013 at 05:56 PM

Becky
Prescott

“ It was a great honor to know Pete...Pete's work as a Chaplin to the jail was all volunteer....I will always remember him saying that before he would step inside the door of the jail that he would put on his Jesus suit....I am deeply saddened.....he believed God was going to grow him a new leg....I believed too...it was time to go to his reward ...much more than a new leg...THIS IS A TERRIBLE LOSS. ...but Heavens wonderful gain....Pete, Thank you for being the person you were and for loving the inmates so much...may God raise up somebody soon to take your place in the county jail...you were my hero...I'm so glad you are not sick or suffering anymore...you once told me you were left in charge with all the keys and you just wanted to unlock every cell and let them all go home.....you loved them so much over the years...your love overflowed beyond those walls....only heaven will reveal the impact your love has made on the world...I will MISS running into you at Walmart and Warehouse Market and visiting.....I wish I had surprised you a lot more times with a few dollars on the seat of your van....you were wonderful Pete..you were genuine..you were faithful..you were humble.. you were bold..you were very very brave..you never stopped loving God or the precious people locked up....so many lives were changed..Pete thank you for being the man that you were...you will always be remembered...loved and your example followed.

Becky Prescott - October 30, 2013 at 04:07 AM

CR

“ Connie Reed lit a candle in memory of
William Peter Bernard



Connie Reed - October 29, 2013 at 07:02 PM



“ Ride with Jesus my brother, many Gr8 memories, going into the prisons tgther for ministries you were in yer element. I love ya brother, you will be missed.

Glenda Love - October 29, 2013 at 03:41 PM



Glenda..I wasn't prepared for him to leave us...he worked hard for Jesus until his work was done...I'm very happy for him and very sad for those who miss him.

Becky Prescott - October 30, 2013 at 04:15 AM



absolutely Becky, me too,I was talking to bro Pete G. a couple days ago & he was telling me how well Chaplin Pete was doing, I know it was somewhat unexpected, but I would sure like to have been a fly on the walk in heaven when he stood before the One he loved so much more then life itself, when he's got that new leg, body,& was told. " WELL DONE PETE, WELL DONE" I could only imagine.

Glenda Love - October 30, 2013 at 04:28 AM



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Jackie Dodson - October 29, 2013 at 03:24 PM



what a gr8 pic, I'll never forget that smile. I love you brother.

Glenda Love - October 30, 2013 at 04:31 AM