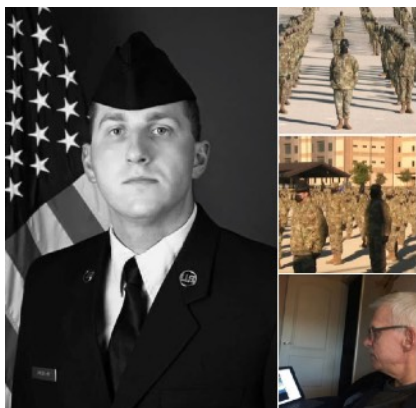




# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

## Photo of the Year



My most liked photo on Facebook was the collage of my nephew Jared when he completed bootcamp with the Air Force. The second most liked photo was the collage I made when my niece Hannah graduated from Optometry School. In some ways it's been a good year!

## Quote of the Year

We don't come to Christ for a smooth flight  
but for a safe landing.

Ray Comfort

## Is More Always Better?

A Youth for Christ ministry in a correctional facility in Miami, Florida used to only record the number of youth who attended their services. Then they became more relational and started recording actual names instead.

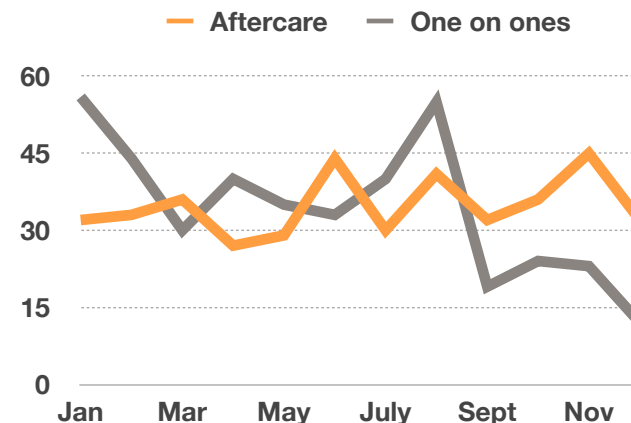
When a ministry works with people, the goal is usually to minister to more and more people every year. Success gets measured in numbers rather than in fruit. Building a larger ministry is easier than going deeper in the lives of those you serve.

In 2020, I got to learn names and not just count numbers. You don't need a large number to find someone needing discipleship.

## What Could I Still Do?

There were so many ministry activities I was not able to do this year but let's focus on what did get done. I was still able to share the gospel and teach the bible to incarcerated youth. I was still able to contact youth one on one over the phone. Bibles still got delivered. I was still able to meet with released youth in the community. I was still able to work on ministry related projects at home.

- I revised my "What is a Man?" pamphlet and keynote presentation.
- I revised my "Overcoming Childhood Trauma" workbook and had it professionally proofread.
- I edited my "Fifty-Two Gospel Presentations" material.
- I revamped my website to focus totally on ministry information.
- I revised my "The Bible and the Twelve Steps" pamphlet.



## What Went Up?

As the number of youth inside the facilities decreased at the end of the year (like it always does), so did the number of requests for one on one contact. However, youth requesting aftercare stayed strong and the contacts (417) were higher than last year.

There were 52 youth I had contact with in 2020, some only once or twice, but others up to sixty-six times. Updates on those I work with the most are contained in my monthly prayer letter. Fifty-five of the aftercare contacts were 15-minute phone calls from prison and twelve were contacts made inside the OC Jails. The rest were in person or over the phone with released youth.

One of my on-going prayer requests is for more youth to select "Protestant" on their religious preference form at intake. There were far less youth taken into custody in 2020 but when I added up the number of religious preference forms received and divided it by the number of intakes, there was a 9% increase from last year! That was one of the best things I saw all year long.

## When to Say Thank You?

Once you send in your support or use PayPal to make a donation, I don't find out about it for at least four weeks. If I have run into you and didn't say anything, it was because I didn't know. So let me say "thank you" right now to all of you who generously support the work.

Only one of the churches that supports me sent out a letter to all their missionaries saying that cuts were going to be made. I was greatly encouraged when I found out I was not one of them. My tax person found a \$3800 mistake in my previous year's tax return that the IRS had not caught. It was tough to send them a check for that amount but I knew it was the right thing to do. (Months later they still sent me a bill for interest on the late amount).

## How Long Was the List?

For many years, I have kept a list of answers to prayer or blessings from God to be thankful for. The number of items on the list this year was sixty-one and many of them have been shared in my monthly prayer letters. On Father's Day, I got a call from a young man I am mentoring who said, "My real dad called me today just to ask for money but you have spent more time with me than he ever did."

I was encouraged to have had five speaking engagements this year even if they were on Zoom. I also got to attend three conferences and only one of them was on Zoom. I continued to stay connected to Street Light Church and spoke five times at one of their services. A highlight of the year was my trip to the Bentley's in Durango, Mexico. The church was open and Pastor Jay allowed me to teach.

## What Was Taught?

I began teaching eight lessons from the Book of Job in January not knowing I would be feeling somewhat like him four months later. After the pandemic began, I started teaching messages that I needed to hear just as much as anyone else. I called this series, "What To Do in a Crisis?" After eleven weeks of talking about God being in control and why not to be afraid, I was starting to feel better.

Then I spent six weeks talking about the Rapture and going through the first four chapters of the Book of Revelation. I read a book about the historical view of Revelation and enjoyed seeing a different perspective of end times. (I did not teach from the book).

Towards the end of August, I started teaching through the 12-Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous calling the series, "The Bible and the Twelve Steps." I had taught the same material four years ago at the bible study for the Youth Guidance Center but wanted to go through it again and revise the pamphlet that went along with the lessons. I pray that it will become another tool I can use to mentor and counsel others with. In December I did some topical messages and am now teaching through the Ten Commandments.

Since we started holding our services on Zoom, I have only missed two Sundays. I even logged on for five minutes from Durango, Mexico. Once a month, Chaplain Tim leads the service but I have joined him for the first part of the service in order to play guitar. I can sit in front of my laptop while visiting my family in Central California and the youth really can't tell the difference.

## My Ministry Contacts

<b>Church Services:</b>	<b>1185</b>
<b>Bible Studies:</b>	<b>255</b>
<b>Chaplain Requests:</b>	<b>240</b>
<b>Counseling:</b>	<b>137</b>
<b>Discipleship:</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Aftercare:</b>	<b>417</b>
<b>Outreach Activities:</b>	<b>96</b>



Back in February, I held a Movie Night at YGC and YLA using the Christian movie called "Breakthrough" based on a true story. The only other special activity was the Virtual Christmas Outreach held on Christmas Eve.

I am in the process of volunteering with the Orange County Rescue Mission and will hopefully be starting a weekly Men's Group. I have also been asked to teach each Sunday evening for the English service at Street Light Church. Thank you again for your part in keeping me full time on the mission field.

**Chaplain Rick Johnson**

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