



MONGOLIA FOR CHRIST

Along the Way (Private interview with inmate recently)- *“Hello Mr Smith. Why do you look so upset?”*
“Because of the way the guards and other inmates have been treating me. I’ve suddenly become a target. I don’t understand why God lets this unfair treatment continue?” *“Oh, I see. You don’t believe God cares about you here in jail, or have control over your situation. Correct?”* *“Yah. I don’t get it.”* *“Well, let’s take a closer look at that ...”*

(15 min’s later) -“Ok. I think I get it now Mr Keller. God’s permitted this to happen because I need to clean up my act. Thanks for helping me see more clearly. I need to remember his priorities and the way he uses trials to get my attention ... because he loves and cares about me. Boy, is God good, or what?” *“You bet he is, son. He cares about you a whole bunch. Now Monday morning, 1st thing, you make sure”*

Ministry Update Sometimes, being a chaplain in a jail ministry is unpredictable. The above private session happened at the end of a long day with a young man who had been recently saved. I was worn out and on my way home, tired and hungry. Suddenly, I got one of those tweaks from the Lord at the steering wheel, directing me to stop by the jail to see if any inmate put in a request. Thankfully, I listened and went. There weren’t any Chaplain Request Forms in the chaplains check-in room notebook like usual. So, I asked the guard if I could go look at the central mailboxes to see if anything was placed there. He did, and off I went. Sure enough there was one request. A new inmate whose name I didn’t recognize. Off I went to the interview room and awaited his arrival by escort. I bowed my head and prayed that God would use me somehow to make a difference.

The rest unfolded as you’ve read (above). And what a joy it was. This man was so distraught. He went from tears and hopelessness to absolute joy and a workable plan. When I walked out to my car afterward, I was in tears for what God had just done. I was so grateful that he got my attention in the car and led me to pay that visit. Even more grateful, for the way he answered my prayer. That I had been his vessel to make a difference.

Whether on the foreign mission field like Mongolia, or home in the U.S. at a county jail, God uses men and women like us to reach out to others in their time of need. This event reminded me that my job is to make myself available ... even at times when I don’t wanna be. That those subtle tweaks aren’t by chance, but from the very hand of our Lord. And when we respond by faith, he does his marvelous things in a way that can’t be mistaken. Nothing is more inspiring or uplifting. You’re looking at a man who’s truly blessed by his role in ministry. Thank you for standing by me with your prayers and support.

Tom



MOBILE PHONE: 513-375-4336 / **EMAIL:** keller.tf@gmail.com

CINCINNATI MAILING ADDRESS: Tom Keller, 1297 Woodville Pike, Milford, OH 45150

First Baptist Church of Glen Este, / Pastor Brent Snook / www.fbcge.org / 513-752-0936

SEND SUPPORT TO: “BWMOM” – P.O.B. 3303, Chattanooga TN 37404 / 423-624-8330