

Syndeo Ministries

"Remember those in prison as if you were bound with them!"
Hebrews 13:3

SYNDEO (Greek) Bound with them. This word has two meanings:

1. bound in chains; to a prisoner, as a prisoner
2. bound, connected in heart, as all believers should be



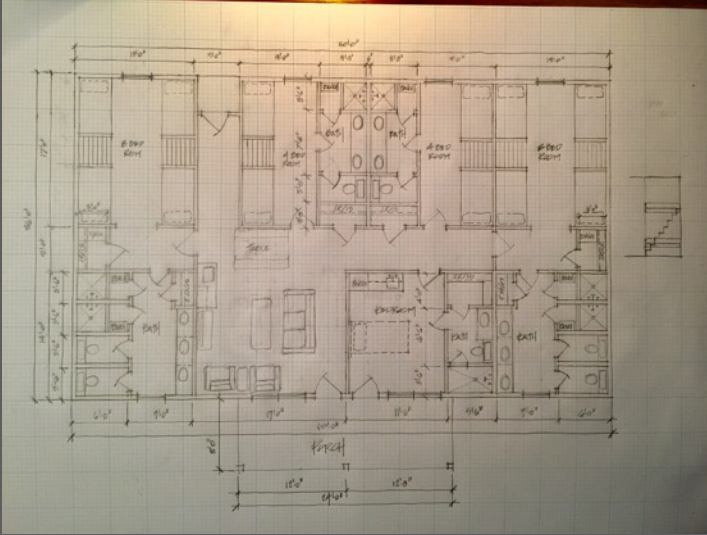
Actually Innocent

On May 10th, I found myself walking into the same courthouse that I was convicted in. I was once again surrounded by friends, family, and attorneys. Micheal Morton was also with me, reminding me to breathe and that we would both be leaving this time - no matter what!! Michael Morton was wrongfully convicted in the death of his wife, and served 25 years for a crime he didn't commit, before he was finally exonerated. On this day, I had to walk through the same metal detectors, be pat searched by the guards, and then go up the same elevator that I had on September 7, 2007...the day I was taken into custody and locked behind prison doors, unable to even touch my kids for the next seven years. As I walked into the courthouse, I could almost feel the handcuffs. I felt like I was going to pass out. But today was different! I walked into the 214th courtroom, heard the honorable Judge Ina Klein say, "The state of Texas verses Hannah Ruth Overton. I was seeing spots, but had to hold on. This time the DA asked her to read an amended motion to dismiss. This motion would state in a court of law that I am actually innocent! This is the piece of paper I'd been waiting for so long! Ps 37:5-6 says, "Commit everything you do to the Lord. Trust him, and he will help you. He will make your innocence radiate like the dawn, and the justice of your cause will shine like the noonday sun." God had good plans from the beginning of this. I couldn't understand, because all I could see was the pain and tragedy of losing Andrew, and then being taking from my family and put into a maximum security prison full of suffering and abuse. But God saw each person who would be affected by this. He saw lives that would be changed. Those who were hopeless would find hope in Him. He saw Syndeo Ministries! He knew then and still knows now, that He was and is able to work ALL THINGS out for good. "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us." Ephesians 3:20

In His hands, Hannah



Breaking Ground



"I will make with them a covenant of peace and banish wild beasts from the land, so that they may dwell securely in the wilderness and sleep in the woods. And I will make them and the places all around my hill a blessing, and I will send down the showers in their season; they shall be showers of blessing. And the trees of the field shall yield their fruit, and the earth shall yield its increase, and they shall be secure in their land. And they shall know that I am the Lord, when I break the bars of their yoke, and deliver them from the hand of those who enslaved them. They shall no more be a prey to the nations, nor shall the beasts of the land devour them. They shall dwell securely, and none shall make them afraid. And I will provide for them renowned plantations so that they shall no more be consumed with hunger in the land, and no longer suffer the reproach of the nations. And they shall know that I am the Lord their God with them, and that they, the house of Israel, are my people, declares the Lord God."

Ezekiel 34:25-30

In 2012, I was first given this scripture by the lord. I knew it was a promise, but didn't understand the depth of that promise. Within the next couple of years, God began to birth the vision for Syndeo Ministries. Upon release, I knew that God was calling us to be faithful and continue in the work He had begun inside. Larry and I began to pray. We continued the penpal ministry and sending Bible studies to the ladies who had signed up, which has grown now to over 300 women. We knew that we had vision for so much more, but didn't know where to begin. We decided to make it official and got our non-profit status. God laid on our hearts to provide a home for ladies coming out of prison. A place where they could transition from prison to the free world, in a safe environment, with a family to love, support, and disciple them in their growth in the Lord. As we were sharing our vision, another ministry donated some land in the East Texas piney woods...and a home that is actually "built into a hill." In June of last year we moved to this property, along with Debi Brinker our operations manager, who also had been given this very same scripture from the Lord when praying about moving to join the ministry! We then began restoring the home. Originally we thought we'd fix up the home and then start to bring women to stay. But as we began to share our hearts for this, we saw the need was so much greater. The home would limit the ladies to a small number. As we began to pray, we envisioned a bunkhouse. The main house is getting close to being ready, and it will provide a place where everyone eats, classrooms, offices, gym... The picture attached shows the plans for the bunkhouse! It will be home to 25 women. We are breaking ground on this project at the end of July, with a group of 28 people from Calvary Chapel Sun City, who have raised money and are coming to help us pour the foundation. We are so excited about all God is doing! If you would like to join us in this life changing building project, by donating or by bringing a group to help, please let us know. You can change lives!!

A Word from Larry

The day before Mother's Day, I along with two others, carried boxes full of chill towels into the Hilltop trusty unit in Gatesville, Texas. The gates opened, we walked in and met the sergeant who would take us back into the dorms. There were many sounds heard, like the guards snapping abruptly at the ones we were called to love. This was my first time seeing this side, the inside of prison walls where my wife spent



over 7 years of her life. A place Christ used to grow our Love for Him and for those He Loves. The women, Christ's Brides, began to line up...some knowing His love for know for them. And still some pushing away the One who loves them. As woman after woman passed by, I saw face after face with only a short second to show His Love to them. A quick "God bless you" as we handed out the cooling towels to provide a small relief from the heat of Texas summers. It didn't seem adequate to show His love to them. But as the next few weeks went by, we began to see the letters coming in, thanking all of us for showing Christ's love, and thanking us for not forgetting them. God reminded me of two things. First, that as I was passing out these small gifts (provided by so many hands and feet in different ways), I was also blessed to see the fruit of our Christmas outreach. The gifts we were able to provide 5 months ago, were still on the table of several bunks! This reminded me that these needs met in their lives (shampoo, lotion, deodorant, etc) are a continued act of Christ's love poured out on them. And the

second reminder , was the story in John 8, where the woman is brought before Christ for Him to condemn her for her sin. He instead shows love, gives grace, and guides her. In John 8:10 and 11, Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin." I can't help but see those faces walking by in my mind with a little different perspective now. Whether too young or too old, too weak or too hard, too scarred or too marked by the things they have done...I can't help but picture the look of love Christ must have had toward that woman (and these women) left condemned by man and guilty of sin...as He said, "Then neither do I condemn you." I pray these women saw His love as they passed by each one of us! We were so blessed to be able to give this small gift from the Lord.

I found myself on the flip side of that today. I was facing a sin in someone, and struggled to not be like the Pharisees in the Scripture. That is hating the sin and the sinner. There's nothing like hearing God speak to you as you're looking at your waiter thinking, "Why me? Could I just get someone normal," and hearing the Lord say, "You without sin throw your stone." At that I found myself standing beside that woman during Christ's time. While this young man was asking for my drink order, I sat with my sin exposed before the Lord. Jesus had love in his eyes for both of us, but I should have known better. After that I did my best to let that young man that Christ died for, see His love in me. Lord help me to show your Love for those who are lost as You love them. A Love for those who are hurting. A Love for those who are seeking the things of this world to fill the hole missing in them, that place reserved for You. Fill me with Your Joy and love overflowing that all may see. Help me to set aside the things that hold You back from using this jar of clay! Amen!

I hope my openness helps you to look at the opportunities that face you. That you will take those opportunities to let Him shine through you. I hope this reminds you of the way Christ sees every person. Thank you to all who have helped make the Chill Towel outreach happen, both by financially supporting the outreach and by being there to help hand out the chill towels. I would ask that you keep us in prayer as we head into the Lane Murray unit on July 15th to pass out last 1400 chill towels. Pray for open doors to show His love and that discipleship will continue in those God touches. ~Pastor Larry



It is only by the prayers of many that this ministry not only came about, but continues. Please pray that we show God's love to those we meet, touch, speak with, write to, and visit with. And that the words we say and write will make everlasting changes. Please also continue to pray for the ladies inside, as they grow in His love.



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www.syndeoministries.com
Email: Syndeoministries@gmail.com

Partner with Us

- We need people committed to partner with Syndeo Ministries through monthly financial support. This ministry is completely funded by donations and we count on you!
- Has God gifted you in construction, electrical, plumbing... Or do you just like to help? There is a lot of work to do! If you are interested in helping with the current projects, which include a main house bathroom, and the bunkhouse. If you enjoy landscaping, cleaning and organizing, then please let us know! Please, also consider donating to help with these projects as they can get very costly!
- If you would like to host a private showing of "Until Proven Innocent: The Hannah Overton Story," please contact us. We have been given permission by the producers to have private showings at a suggested donation of \$10 a person. All proceeds go to Syndeo Ministries.
- It's almost time for the next Bible study! At this point, we have a little over 300 women excited to receive their new study. We are looking for a more cost effective way to provide quality studies, as the current cost is over \$3,000 quarterly. We would love your ideas!
- With everyone coming and going, we are always in need of things like paper products, cleaning supplies, sheets, towels, etc.



Please pray about becoming a partner with us to make this ministry happen! Prayer is the most important aspect of this ministry, even if you are unable to support Syndeo financially or through work projects, your prayers change lives!

“This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord’s people, but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.”

2 Corinthians 9:12

In the past few months we've been blessed to be able to share our story of Gods faithfulness at many churches, women's teas, men's breakfast, retreats and , law conferences ! Thank you all so much for having us! We are so excited to share how God works all things out for good! Your hospitality has been amazing!

