



Three Ministry Tools:



- **3L Journeyman Catholic Life Skills**
- **The Crucible – Life Skills Short Course**
- **The Knucklehead Gospels**



Catholic Life Skills Course L3 Journeyman Overview



- ❖ First introduced on the Connally Unit in 2012 as a follow up to the positive response from the Kolbe/ACTS retreats.
- ❖ Created by volunteers Frank Cassidy and Robert McCormick in collaboration with a group of the Connally residents.
- ❖ Classes meet weekly; participants engage in fellowship, small group sharing, written and class presentations, self discovery, spiritual formation and social re-entry preparedness.
- ❖ Activities weave together faith and community building with critical thinking skills to promote a threshold of change to decisions and actions which led to incarceration.



L3 Journeyman Life Skills



Four Modules with a Common Curriculum Thread:
Knowing, loving and serving God through participation in Christ's priestly, prophetic, and kingly office.

Homework is assigned and evaluated:
written essays, solo and group presentations, participate in small group discussions, practice role playing various real-life scenarios.



L3 Journeyman Life Skills



Goal:

Move away from the gang culture and instill a faith-based lifestyle for betterment of self and the community.

Preparation for re-entry into society and continued growth and positive contribution within the incarcerated community.



Modules 1 and 2:



Adoration

Learning about self and relationship with God; introduces participants to the meaning of commitment and accepting conversion as a lifelong process.

Community

Learning about how to love neighbor: personal relationships, responsibilities and conduct within the Christian Community and society in general: Love One Another, Meaning of Community and Cultural Awareness, Communications Skills, Shifting Vital Behavior, Elements of Leadership, Team Building and Working Together.



Modules 3 and 4:



Theology

Investigation of the Bible's original meaning in historical and literary contexts. Part 2 explores a deeper understanding of exegesis and theological reflection.

Service

Develop skill sets for living the Christian mission: The Psychology of Human Learning, Teaching 101, Resumes, Decision Making & Development Action Plan, Parole Planning, Strategic and Business Planning, Developing a Community Service Project



Life Skills – Short Course The Crucible



- ❖ Several years ago, data research was done on the L3 Journeyman course Module 1 as part of a post-graduate degree by TDCJ volunteer Frank Cassidy at the Connally Unit in Kenedy Texas.
- ❖ The results of the two-year study showed a dramatic decrease in violence and major cases within the treatment group vs the control group. The question was asked if this concept could be used to decrease recidivism in an at-risk (county jail) population.



Life Skills – Short Course The Crucible



- ❖ Connally resident Arnulfo Ayala took up the task and combined a self-assessment workshop called Siena with individual lessons from the first two modules of L3 Journeyman. He named it The Crucible.
- ❖ Designed to help an individual discover who he is and determine where he wants to go in life – his legacy, and to study the personal and social skills necessary to accomplish this, with a goal to turn away from deviant behavior and focus on activities that will positively impact his life, family and community.



Lessons from Module 1:



Commitment
Scripture Learning
Conversion
Knowing God
Self Assessment
Prayer Life
Critical Thinking
Fortitude



Lesson 1: Commitment



Movie - "Facing the Giants"

High School Coach Taylor has lost hope in his battle against fear and failure with three losing seasons. However, an unexpected challenge helps him find a purpose bigger than just victories. Daring to trust God to do the impossible, Coach Taylor and the Eagles discover how faith plays out on the field and off. With God, all things are possible.

Character study of nine individuals and their challenges in the story.

Enduring Questions:

1. Which character did you connect with best and why?
2. What are some examples of faith and trust in the movie?
3. How did prayer and personal relationships with God play into the movie?
