## PRISON MINISTRY, WHY BOTHER?

As a prisoner in the Texas Department of Criminal justice I live among the end result of the indifference and denial of Divine Law regarding the most fundamental element in society:

In the mist of relativism every sector of our christian society is instilling extraordinary permissiveness and complacency among the old and sowing aimlessness and confusion
among the young. Aimlessness and confusion, the root of crime, creates a psycological
schism in one's understanding of himself, pitting what he is vs. who he is. A struggle
where one defines himself by social trends, associations or material possessions rather
than the moral absolutes that govern mutually benficial relationships with others,
regardless of trend, peer pressure or material gain.

The criminal element is an end result of this wave of relativism in that, by strictly focusing on what an individual is, he is more willing to lie, cheat or steal to achieve the notaraity or material goods he so cherishes, in spite of God's law. While those who are morally conscious are willing to make due with what they have and earn what they desire with hard work and perseverance, for the sake of God's law.

While incarcerated, we have an opportunity to discover who we are as individuals (honorable, dignified and rightous in the eyes of God) and what we're capable of as men in this society, which when governed by a moral conscience will help rather than hurt our fellow man.

This is the benefit of Prison A.C.T.S. Retreats, where we begin to discover our relationship with God, explore our personal and spiritual gifts and the desire to share them with others. The retreat is an awakening process to what is inherently good in all of us and the A.C.T.S. Volunteers are key to watering the seeds of hope, faith and love that will ultimately benefit everyone we came into contact with in the future.

So, why bother? It's pretty simple: help a man discover  $\underline{\text{who}}$  he is or deal with  $\underline{\text{what}}$  he is. As with everything in life, there's a choice. We can only pray that you will support the right choice.