



Bible Society News

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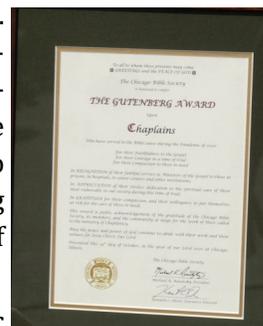
Gutenberg Award Goes To Chaplains 2020 Award to a Special Group of Ministers



Chaplains Perez and Nuñez with the Gutenberg Award

For the past 66 years, the Gutenberg Award has honored individuals who exemplify the Bible cause in ministry, academia or the marketplace. This year was different: we honored a group of individuals who were worthy

of special honor. For 2020, the winners of the Gutenberg Award were the chaplains who have served during the Pandemic of 2020.



2020 Gutenberg Award

The Pandemic has put first responders and front line workers in the spot light. One group of front line workers who have not received as much notice by the press are the chaplains. Working in our hospitals, jails, and other institutions, they represent the Bible cause in so many

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Project Philip Sees a Miracle



Jails locked down due to Covid 19

God has worked a miracle at Project Philip in the Cook County Jail. The pandemic shut down the jails, but Project Philip continued stronger than before.

Last year, in order to reach more inmates with this life-changing study of God's Word, we trained inmates within the facility to be group leaders. In this way, groups could continue to function even if the chaplain/leader was not present. In April, the jail was completely locked down for the summer. However, Jesus Nuñez was able to keep in touch with the group leaders and supply them with study books and Bibles. As a result, the Project Philip groups not only survived, but thrived.

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Gutenberg Award (continued from page 1)

different situations. Whether the sick in the hospitals, seniors at high risk of infections in retirement facilities or inmates in our local jails – all of these in need of spiritual counsel are ministered to by the chaplains. They are the unsung heroes of this Year of Covid-19.

In the video presentation of the 2020 Gutenberg Awards, Deacon Pablo Perez of Kolbe House shared how he has had to deliver death notices to inmates at the prison while also conducting funerals for dozens of families that lost loved ones. Chaplain Jesus Nuñez, Chaplain Steve Madawick and Deacon John Shea shared similar stories. They also shared their gratitude to Chicago Bible Society and its donors for the support that we give them.

As Chaplain Shea said, “almost every inmate asks for a Bible: it is one of the few things that they can keep and take with them . . . [They] mark the page to go back to it and say ‘this is important’ or ‘I have a question.’ Without the ministry of Chicago Bible Society, we would not have a Bible to give to them.” ■

From the Executive Director’s Desk

“The Bible Makes a Difference”

During this time of pandemic, we become not only aware of our own suffering but also the suffering of so many who have lost loved ones to this dreaded disease. Giving food to the hungry, clothing to the destitute and in other ways – both large and small – reaching out to the victims and providing comfort and support . . . These are all ways that we reach out with compassion toward those suffering.

Giving Bibles? That is not always the first thought that comes to us. However, with physical distress comes spiritual distress. People ask the hard questions that are often so easy to avoid when times are good. At this time, having access to the Bible is as important – if not more so – than access to food and clothing.

This summer, we were honored to partner with Lawndale Christian Health Center through our board member Pastor James Brooks. Lawndale was responsible to providing health services to the homeless while they were housed on an emergency basis in one of the downtown hotels. Every morning, the staff started with a time of gathering and Bible study lead by Pastor Brooks. Chicago Bible Society provided study Bibles for the staff and for the residents. You can hear Pastor Brooks testimony in our Gutenberg Award video.

Project Philip Miracle (cont’d from page 1)



Chaplain Nuñez works on Project Philip

Attendance at Project Philip is up by 70% and the graduation rate has increased by 100% over 2019. This year, the year of the pandemic, we have graduated more people through the Project Philip program than any time over the past decade.

Please continue to pray for the inmates in Project Philip, that they can continue to study the Bible and grow deeper in their relationship to Christ. ■

The Gutenberg Awards are now online

The 2020 Gutenberg Awards can be seen online at:

ChicagoBibleSociety.org/Gutenberg

You can hear the full story of the chaplains, including our work at DuPage County Jail, area hospitals and senior retirement centers.



Chicago Bible Society At A Glance

Where we have been

- 1840 - Founded in Chicago.
- 1871 - Provided Bibles to the city after the Great Fire.
- 1876 - Chicago Bible Work with Dwight Moody
- 1892 - Chicago Bible House with Emma Dryer
- 1952 - Gutenberg Award established

What we are doing

- 2,023 jail inmates enrolled in small group Bible study
- 235 inner-city school children learn to read using the Bible
- 41 churches & ministries in partnership to reach their community with the Bible
- 4,184 Scripture resources provided to jails, hospitals, schools and churches this year valued at \$14,661