

PMI Center for Biblical Studies

POB 177 - Battle Creek, MI 49016-0177 - (269) 282-9381 - PmiMinistries.com

Introductory Pack Cover Letter

ADVANCED BIBLE STUDY, THEOLOGY, and PASTORAL MINISTRY TRAINING thru DISTANCE ED

Greetings in the majestic, magnificent, and matchless name of Jesus Christ our Lord! Enclosed is the **Introductory Pack** you requested explaining everything about our diploma and co-op Bible college degree programs. If you sense the Lord speaking to your heart about enrolling, please keep in mind that we can't and we won't process incomplete or illegible applications, so be careful, neat, and thorough so your application won't be returned to you!

COMMITMENT and COOPERATION

⇒ **Commitment:** Your matriculation into the PMI Center will set you upon a thrilling journey into the inerrant, infallible, inspired Word of the Living God most Christians will never get to make. However, if you're hoping for a diploma or degree requiring zero commitment with little effort, please find another school! PMI Center coursework is by design Bible college level: It is inductive, informative, illuminating, inspiring, and intense. Every one of our target degree tracks requires a thorough study of the Bible along with independent research and reflective written analyses. My friend, if you're not up to the rigors of college level work, you may first request enrollment in the PMI Bible Institute. Once you complete the 8 lesson *Foundations of Faith* study, you may then submit your IP for enrollment into our seminary level program.

⇒ **Cooperation:** Not long ago a nationally recognized Bible school closed its doors citing financial hardships as the root cause. Thanks be unto God that PMI has been graciously blessed by the Lord since 1981 to provide our 26,000 students with uninterrupted seminary quality, **TUITION FREE** Bible and ministry training. TUITION FREE means that while we have expenses ¹ to pay like anyone else, we have never charged prohibitive fees of \$30 to \$100 per credit hour or more to pay for them. Instead, the Lord showed us in His Holy Word that His prescribed method for paying ministry expenses is through tithes and offerings from the heart and hand of His precious people who love prisoners and are led of God to faithfully support our ministry to them. With cooperation of this magnitude I now reveal to you my . . .

⇒ **Commitment:** I love this work God called me to 1981, and I'm committed to it and to you. Until my father went to be with the Lord in 2009 he worked with me and for years he and I paid most of the PMI expenses ourselves. Now those expenses as well as the work load is way beyond my means. I now have three part time workers who help me, but often that still isn't enough. While PMI answers all mail requiring a response we sometimes get a bit behind and need your love and understanding. In light of that, let me say that as your mentor- and as God provides the resources- I am fully committed to educating, encouraging, and equipping you for whatever ministry the Lord Jesus is leading you to. That being said, I'm asking for you to help me make all of this happen for you with your full and faithful . . .

⇒ **Cooperation:** David was a man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22). When Araunah offered the future king a piece of sacred ground for nothing, he refused, saying: *Nay; but I will surely buy it of thee at a price: neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which doth cost me nothing (2 Samuel 24:24)*. He knew there was a cause, and with it- a cost. David was willing to do whatever was necessary to provide for the ministry God had called him to. Beloved, if the above story of David's *commitment to* and his *cooperation with* the ministry of God in some way characterizes you, I will with delight anticipate your application to our school and matriculation into one of our acclaimed seminary level training programs from which I will help prepare you to the best of my ability!

Shalom my dear friend,

Dr. Mike

Dr. Mike Johnston (Isa. 42:6-7)

Member of International Network of Prison Ministries, COPE

PS: One more thing before I sign off here. I hope you know that I desire more than anything to help prepare the Lord's servants for whatever exciting ministries He has in store for them. However, my files are bulging with unfulfilled pledges from uncommitted *students* who in their quest to impress me apparently put their hand to the plough then looked back (Luke 9:62)! If that *describes* you, either quit quitting or give this IP to someone the Lord and I can count on!

¹ Typical Bible school expenses include- but are not limited to- computers, printers, paper, postage, ink/toner, envelopes, literature, books, rent, utilities, staff salaries, contract printing, missions (yes, we also tithe on our income), and other miscellaneous supplies and items that arise and are necessary if we are to continue in ministry. One day if you pastor a church, or head up a ministry organization, you'll understand this clearly ☺.

Introductory Pack (IP)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Q: What is the doctrinal position of the PMI Center? **A:** We are without apology independent, fundamental, dispensational, and advocates of the Old Scofield Study Bible. We believe the Bible is true from cover to cover and- as such- is our final authority in all matters of faith and practice. Our statement of faith is word for word the same as Moody Bible Institute.

Q: What translation do you use at the PMI Center? **A:** We use the King James Version. If you don't have a KJV, you may use what is available to you. We also have bonded leather, Old Scofield Study Bibles (KJV) for a \$30 gift to PMI.

Q: Do you ordain women? **A:** No. Women students are offered and provided with non-pastoral studies.

Q: Can I receive credit for my ministry experience or from other Bible courses I've taken or taught? **A:** Yes. This is called Advanced Standing which will allow you to matriculate into as well as graduate at an advanced study level. Please request a **DEGREE AND CREDIT EVALUATION (DACE)** form to submit to PMI for an analysis.

Q: You said this is tuition free school. Why are you asking for funds? **A:** Tuition-free means we don't charge per credit hour *tuition fees* that most prisoners can't afford. However, we still have expenses. Please hear me dear friend. Isn't it time we looked at giving to the Lord's work with delight rather than disdain? Paul commanded: *Let him that is taught communicate unto (share with) him that teacheth (Gal. 6:6)*. Just as Moses asked (Ex. 35-36), David asked (1 Chron. 29:1-20), King Hezekiah asked (2 Chron. 31:4), Nehemiah asked (Neh. 2:7-8), and Paul asked (1 Cor. 16:1-4) for ministry money, we likewise ask for \$15-\$30 per month per student to help pay our ongoing ministry expenses.

Q: I've put my family and friends through enough. I won't ask them to help me or contribute to PMI. **A:** Then are you not in effect usurping the role of the Holy Spirit in their lives- possibly causing them to either miss a great blessing- or worse- to sin? Let me explain. The Bible teaches everything belongs to God (Job 41:11) and Christians are merely stewards of what the Lord actually owns (Luke 12:42-48; 1 Cor. 4:2). We are *all* therefore *expected* to give to the Lord as an act of obedience. When we obey Him in this, the Lord provides *seed to the sower (2 Cor. 9:10)* then blesses us for distributing it (Luke 6:38). The question at hand then isn't "*should* your friends and relatives give tithes and offerings to God's work?" but rather "*where* shall they give them?" We believe PMI has since 1981, proven to be a trustworthy option for tithes and offerings given in obedience from money God has temporarily entrusted to them.

Q: What happens to students with no sponsors? **A:** They *may* be placed in a hold file until one becomes available.

Q: I believe in tithing and I want to help PMI. How much do prisoners usually pay? Can I give stamp offerings? **A:** Thank you very much for your willingness to partner with us. Scripture teaches us God loves a cheerful giver (2 Cor. 9:7). The fact is, **our inmate students are among the most obedient, generous, and willing givers** on the planet. As the Lord speaks, these committed brethren respond with integrity and joy; some with a few dollars per month, some with much more. Stamps are always needed and very welcome.

Q: Does PMI offer degrees? **A:** No. PMI offers diplomas. Degrees are available through the co-op colleges we work with.

Q: Can I work on more than one study program at a time? **A:** No.

Q: Can I continue my studies when I'm back in the Free World? **A:** Yes.

Q: I heard you have an Old Scofield Study Bible course in Theology. How much is it and how do I enroll? **A:** This is an in-depth study of the finest Study Bible on the planet. It does, however, require a sponsor of at least \$120 paid in 4 increments of \$30 each. Upon receipt of the first gift, a beautiful bonded leather Old Scofield (KJV) Bible with the cherished 1917 notes is sent along with the first of 4 modules. Please note application if interested in this most enriching study opportunity.

Q: Can I sponsor myself in the Old Scofield course? **A:** Yes. But keep in mind the Bible and subsequent modules are not sent until *after* receipt of each subsequent \$30 gift.

Q: What are the steps for enrollment at PMI? **A:** All necessary information is included.

PMI CENTER FOR BIBLICAL STUDIES

Dr. Michael Johnston, Exec. Director - (269) 282-9381 - Rev. Robert Johnston, Dean Emeritus

INTRODUCTORY PACK (IP)

-TUITION FREE-

Advanced Bible Training Programs in:

- **Biblical Studies (6 Yrs - 180 Hrs)**
- **Pastoral Ministry Studies (2 Yrs - 60 Hrs)**
- **Jack Van Impe Prophecy Studies in Theology (2 Yrs - 60 Hrs)**
- **Religious Education (1 Yr - 30 Hrs)**
- **Scofield Study Bible in Theology (2 Yrs - 60 Hrs)**



Dear student and friend: I am excited about the distance education studies program for prisoners offered by the PMI Center for Biblical Studies. Dr. Michael Johnston's ministry is meeting the definite and growing need for discipleship and Bible training in this segment of our society. I have personally reviewed (and contributed to) the curriculum and found it to be Scripturally sound. --Dr. Jack Van Impe

Welcome to the PMI distance education opportunity!

The PMI Center is a very unique school. We began in 1981 with the belief that our incarcerated Christian friends deserved the same quality Bible and ministry education provided to those studying through the best distance education schools in the nation. We believe we provide that quality and after Luther Rice Seminary (the undisputed pioneer in distance education) reviewed our materials, they agreed and congratulated us for achieving that goal.

► **TUITION FREE STUDY PROGRAMS:** The PMI Center doesn't charge the regular per credit hour tuition other schools do. If we did, this education would cost you up to \$100 per credit hour, or more. That translates to \$3000 per year which, needless to say, is well beyond the means of most of our students. God showed us from His inerrant Word that our funding couldn't be derived from tuition, but through the **tithes** and **freewill offerings** from those who believe in what we are doing and who have a special interest in a particular student. This, my friend, is ordained through Almighty God and is absolutely Biblical.

► **ACCREDITATION:** PMI Center has achieved **NATIONAL RECOGNITION** as a leader in non-traditional Bible study education. We are members of the International Network of Prison Ministries, and COPE. Since 1981, we have enrolled over 26,000 students while serving as a referral ministry for **Jack Van Impe, David Jeremiah, Luther Rice Seminary, Mike Barber Ministries, D. James Kennedy, Chaplain Ray, Billy Graham, Radio Bible Class**, and the list goes on. Under the leadership of the Lord Jesus Christ, our goal has always been to equip evangelists, pastors and teachers with the inerrant, infallible, inspired Scriptures, so that they may win souls, disciple their converts, and earnestly contend for the faith (Jude 1:3).

3 SIMPLE STEPS FOR ENROLLMENT:

- **STEP 1. CAREFULLY READ** this entire *Intro Pack with FAQs* to ensure that we have no misunderstandings later! Carefully read and **COMPLETE** both sides of the **APPLICATION FOR ENROLLMENT**. **Be sure you sign both pages**. **PROVIDE** four (4) references for us to contact regarding your study program; two relatives and two friends or two more relatives. **TELL us who they are- mom, brother, uncle, fellow Christian, etc)**. Additional names may be placed on a separate paper. **Do not use PRISONERS, SCHOOLS, MINISTRIES, OR CHAPLAINS** as references. Don't use **TWO REFERENCES** at the **SAME ADDRESS!** If you do any of the above, your application *may* be returned to you and thus delayed! If you **do not** want your references contacted, please indicate in the 2 boxes on the **FUNDING** and the **APPLICATION** pages. However, please bear in mind our school is faith based and Biblically funded as mandated in God's Word. Without funding we *may not* be able to enroll you, or continue sending courses to you. While this may sound unloving, it is a reality we must deal with every day at the PMI Center.
- **STEP 2. PREPARE** 2 additional documents: *My Testimony* and *Why I Believe the Lord Jesus Wants Me Enrolled in the PMI Center*. These two support documents are integral elements when deciding who to enroll in the PMI Center.
- **STEP 3. CONTACT** your references to help with your support. If you have taken other Bible courses, request a **DACE** form from us so we can evaluate your studies and ministry experience for Advanced Standing. You may have earned credits from courses you've taken and or taught which could qualify you for a degree by one of our co-op colleges. Again, be sure you request a **DACE** form by checking the box on the Application.

6 YEAR – 180 CREDIT HOUR BIBLICAL STUDIES TRACK

(Actual courses may vary after a thorough DACE analysis)

1st Year	Genesis Matthew Exodus Mark Leviticus	3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs	Luke Numbers John Deuteronomy Acts	3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs
2nd Year	Joshua Romans Judges/Ruth 1 Corinthians 1&2 Samuel	3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs	2 Corinthians Galatians 1 Kings/Chronicles Ephesians 2 Kings/Chronicles	3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs
3rd Year	Ezra/Neh/Esther Philippians Job Colossians/Philemon Psalms	3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs	Ecccl/Song/Lam Proverbs Isaiah Jeremiah Ezekiel	3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs
4th Year	Daniel Obadiah/Jonah/Micah Nahum/Habakkuk/Zeph Hosea / Joel/Amos 1&2 Thessalonians	3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs	1&2 Timothy/Titus Hebrews James 1&2 Peter Thesis	3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs 3 Hrs
5th Year	1-3 John/Jude Haggai/Zech/Malachi Last Days—Mid East	3 Hrs 3 Hrs 6 Hrs	OT Survey NT Survey Thesis	6 Hrs 6 Hrs 6 Hrs
6th Year	Satan Abraham/Moses David/Solomon	3 Hrs 6 Hrs 6 Hrs	Revelation Thesis	6 Hrs. 9 Hrs.

60 HR. MINISTRY ORDINATION TRACK

60 HR JACK VAN IMPE PROPHECY TRACK

The Church and its Lord	3 Hrs- Text: Ephesians and Colossians in the Bible	Ind. Prophecy Research	3 Hrs- Text: The Bible and any resources you may have.
Church Organization	3 Hrs- Text: 1&2 Timothy/Titus in the Bible	Prophecy Overview	3 Hrs- Text: What you always wanted to know about prophecy but didn't know who to ask –Dr. Jack Van Impe
Ministry Project	3 Hrs- All of our ministry students are required to serve the Lord Jesus Christ, which they tell us is the joy and fruit of an obedient life.	The Rapture and the Revelation Daniel	3 Hrs- Text: The Rapture and the Revelation –Dr. Mike Johnston 3 Hrs- Text: The Bible, The Daniel Papers
Acts Ministry	3 Hrs- Text: Acts in the Bible	Signs of the Times	6 Hrs- 9 Signs of the End Times –Dr. Mike Johnston
Thesis	3 Hrs- Text: The Bible and Other Resources from Student	Revelation Revealed	6 Hrs- Text: Revelation Revealed–Dr. Jack Van Impe
Sharing Jesus	3 Hrs- Text: Sharing Jesus –Dr. Michael Johnston	Sharing Jesus	3 Hrs- Text: Sharing Jesus –Dr. Mike Johnston
Preaching the Bible	3 Hrs- Text: Preaching and Teaching the Word of God –Dr. Michael Johnston	Last Days in the Middle East Antichrist	3 Hrs- Text: Armageddon, Oil, and the Middle East Crisis –Dr. John Walvoord 3 Hrs. Text: The Bible; What Can We Know About the Antichrist
Bible Doctrines	3 Hrs- Text: Bible Doctrines –Dr. Michael Johnston	Thesis Rapture and Revelation	3 Hrs- Text: The Bible and Other Resources from Student 3 Hrs- Text: The Second Coming of Jesus Christ –Dr. Mike Johnston
Overview of Ministry	3 Hrs- Text: Ministry Handbook – Dr. Michael Johnston	Bible Survey Bible Doctrines	12 Hrs- Text: What the Bible is All About –Dr. Henrietta Mears 3 Hrs- Text: Doctrines of the Bible –Dr. Mike Johnston
Bible Survey	12 Hrs- Text: What the Bible is All About –Dr. Henrietta Mears	Misc and Ind. Research/Studies	3-12 Hrs- Assorted texts and assignments
60 HR. OLD SCOFIELD STUDY BIBLE COURSE			30 HR. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
<p>“If you only have time for one course of study before parole, I suggest this one!” –Dr. Mike. This program consists of 4 intense 15 credit hour study modules virtually exploring the incredible resources available in the finest study Bibles on the planet. Along with the 60 hours of study, the student will receive a beautiful bonded leather Old Scofield Study Bible (KJV) with the sound and trusted 1917 notes. Requires a \$120 sponsor.</p>			<p>This track is for those with a Bachelor's degree or 120 hours of Advanced Standing via DACE analysis. Requires a \$200 sponsor.</p>

PMI BIBLE STUDIES AND FUNDING

▶▶ Sign and return both sides of this form ◀◀

▶ **OUR FAITH MANDATE:** *Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world (Matthew 28:19-20).* The Great Commission is Christ's mandate for reaching the world with the Gospel. This has also been our mandate here at the PMI Center since the day we opened our doors in 1981. What a joy it has been through the years to train thousands of *watchmen* on the wall (Isa. 62:6; Jer. 51:12; Ezek. 3:17; etc) while at the same time observing some common qualities that makes them meet for the Master's use including their total commitment to a daily regimen of intercessory prayer, a diligent study of the Word of God, a lifestyle devoted to righteousness and holiness before the Lord, and an ongoing evangelistic mindset that implores God to give them for Christ the hopelessly lost around them. Needless to say I'm proud of these *winners* and I'm asking the Lord Jesus to send me many more that I can mentor into ministry (2 Tim. 2:2).

▶ **OUR FUNDING METHOD:** *And brought in the offerings and the tithes . . . faithfully (2 Chronicles 31:12).* God's funding method for ministry doesn't operate in a vacuum but rather on a two-way street of obedience. One day you may discover this in a church or ministry of your own. How you respond here may well determine how others respond to you then (Gal. 6:7-8). When God wants something done, He burdens the heart of one of His servants to *obey Him* and carry it out. These are the *winners* I discussed above. If there is a cost involved- and there usually is- He will prompt these same men to present the need and ask for money from those He will also burden to *obey Him* by providing it. You may recall that Moses asked for money (Ex. 35-36), David asked (1 Chron. 29:1-20), King Hezekiah asked (2 Chron. 31:4), Nehemiah asked (Neh. 2:7-8), Paul asked (1 Cor. 16:1-4) and so did many others. We also ask- for \$15 to \$30 per month (that's only fifty cents or more per day) per student. I wish you could read the letters from precious family members and friends of our students who consider it a privilege- not a problem- to help us make these Bible study programs possible. These are truly words of *joy unspeakable and full of glory (1 Pet. 1:8)*. But as priceless as these testimonies are to us, what may be the hallmark of unselfishness is the way in which our students generously help support themselves with monthly offerings of money *and* stamps. We are so proud of these dear souls who have so little and yet possess giant Christ-honoring hearts of givers—not takers. These precious ones are like David who really understood the meaning of sacrifice in God's work: *Neither will I offer . . . unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing (2 Sam. 24:24)*. Will this be one day written about you as well?

▶ **OUR FINAL MESSAGE** A moment ago I told you about a group of men I've mentored that God is using in wonderful ways. What I didn't tell you is this: where there are *winners*, there are also *whiners*- and frankly my files are filled with them. They fooled me on their applications that were brimming with great promises and grandiose pledges they later whined about, and weaseled their way out of. The courses were too hard, so they whined. Our responses were sometimes slowed a bit due to our workload, so they whined. Their references were contacted for support, so they whined. Interestingly, while they had little time to study, pray, or share Jesus with the lost, they always had plenty of time to whine. Please hear me dear friend. If you're prone to whining, I'm not interested in listening to it. There's a world that's dying and going to hell all around us and the time for reaching them is rapidly slipping through our fingers. Therefore, if you're a whiner do us both a favor and give this application to a winner-- please!

Let me close with a quick story about the time DL Moody heard Charles Haddon Spurgeon set forth the following challenge: "The world is yet to see what God can do with a man who doesn't care who gets the credit." Moody returned to Chicago vowing: "By the grace of God I'll be that man!" As I prayed over this IP today, the question occurred to me: could this sold-out-servant Spurgeon spoke about and Moody yearned to become- possibly be *you*? Winner or whiner? I'll get my answer shortly.

PROMISES AND PERMISSIONS

Read this and place an "X" in the box provided! Applications will not be processed without this information.

I agree with King David (2 Sam. 24:24)! I believe it is important to provide tithes and offerings for God's ministry and therefore I pledge \$ _____ per month [] prison check [] stamps

YES, you MAY contact my references! NO, please DO NOT contact my references!

◀◀◀ **CHECK THIS BOX!** I have read this IP in its entirety, and I agree wholeheartedly! (PLEASE BEAR IN MIND: If this is left unchecked and unsigned below, it will be returned to you).

X _____
Sign here (will be returned w/o signature) Date

PMI Center For Biblical Studies APPLICATION FOR ENROLLMENT

Please neatly print all information except your signature

NAME _____ # _____
Last First Middle Initial Your Number

PRISON ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ST _____ Zip _____

DATE OF BIRTH ____/____/____ MALE FEMALE

► **PREVIOUS EDUCATION (check all that apply):**

- High school Trade School Some College College Degree(s) _____
 Bible School Courses (if desiring credit, contact each to have transcripts sent to PMI Center)
 Bible College Degree(s) _____ Please send a **DACE** form

► **SUPPORT DOCUMENTS REQUIRED (1-2 pages each): Don't submit apps without these two:**

- Testimony of your salvation* *Why I Believe the Lord Jesus Wants Me Enrolled in the PMI Center*

PLEASE PROVIDE **2 FRIENDS** (Please do not list chaplains, prisoners, schools, or ministries)

name number & street city/state/zip

name number & street city/state/zip

PLEASE PROVIDE **2 RELATIVES** NAMES (Tell us who they are- Your Mom? Brother? Sister? Cousin? Uncle? Please **DO NOT USE** relatives at same address!)

name/relationship to you number & street city/state/zip

name/relationship to you number & street city/state/zip

SELECT ONE BIBLE STUDY PROGRAM DESIRED:

- **Area of interest:** Bible Studies Track Ministry/Ordination Jack Van Impe Prophecy in Theology
 Old Scofield Study Bible in Theology (requires \$120 sponsor) Religious Education (requires \$200 sponsor)

PLEASE CHECK ONE: YES- you **MAY** contact my references NO- you **MAY NOT** contact my references

X

Sign here (will be returned w/o signature)

Date

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date accepted _____