

# **Touched By The Light Publishing In Partnership With The Community**

## **A BETTER LIFE AWAITS YOU WHEN YOU READ!**

### **"He Who Reads, Sees"**

Literacy is defined as "using printed and written information to function in society, to achieve one's goals, and to develop one's knowledge and potential."

National Assessment of Adult Literacy

Touched By The Light Publishing just finished a twelve year study in which we learned that the nation's ill are founded on violence and poverty and violence and poverty is founded on the inability of people to read. So we propose to treat the disease. We wrote books to attack the roots of crime - poverty, poor education, drug abuse, broken families, and lack of job training. Because of this vision Touched By The Light Publishing has decided to advocate for 100% Literacy in America. 20% of our profit shall go toward the Touched By The Light Literacy Program. We recognize that literacy is the power that changes lives and improves communities. Literacy is critical to personal freedom. We envisions a world in which everyone can read, write, compute, and where adults can use technology to lead healthy, productive, and fulfilling lives. Statistics have proven that literacy unlocks doors, enhances creativity and people learn what is going on, on the other side of the world. Literacy impacts lives. Adultery literacy prepares people for better jobs. Better jobs lead to increased productivity, safer streets, and happier families. On the other hand:

**"Emotional Literacy"** is the ability to recognize, understand and appropriately express our emotions and it is an essential ingredient for life success, happiness, and peace. Those men and women who do not possess this quality end up in prison or in the grave. The lack of emotional literacy is in part why many men are in prison today. Our prison population is 65 – 70% illiterate. Lives are being lost through illiteracy. If we are to increase employment opportunities for men returning to the community from prison we must initiate a reading program in prisons throughout the country. We can treat illiteracy ourselves. No one has to help us. If you teach a man to read you will not have to teach him to fish.

Did you know Low health literacy cost Americans 238 billion dollars per year?

Did you know that two-thirds of students who cannot read proficiently by the end of the 4th grade will end up in jail or on welfare?

Here are some Literacy statistics with respect to America

### **LITERACY STATISTICS AND JUVENILE COURT**

- 85 percent of all juveniles who interface with the juvenile court system are functionally illiterate.
- More than 60 percent of all prison inmates are functionally illiterate.

- Penal institution records show that inmates have a 16% chance of returning to prison if they receive literacy help, as opposed to 70% who receive no help. This equates to taxpayer costs of \$25,000 per year per inmate and nearly double that amount for juvenile offenders.
- Illiteracy and crime are closely related. The Department of Justice states, "The link between academic failure and delinquency, violence, and crime is *welded to reading failure*." Over 70% of inmates in America's prisons cannot read above a fourth grade level.

### **MANY OF THE USA ILLS ARE DIRECTLY RELATED TO ILLITERACY FEW STATISTICS:**

- Literacy is learned. Illiteracy is passed along by parents who cannot read or write.
- One child in four grows up not knowing how to read.
- 43% of adults at *Level 1* literacy skills live in poverty compared to only 4% of those at *Level 5*
- 3 out of 4 food stamp recipients perform in the lowest 2 literacy levels
- 90% of welfare recipients are high school dropouts
- 16 to 19 year old girls at the poverty level and below, with below average skills, are 6 times more likely to have out-of-wedlock children than their reading counterparts.
- Low literary costs \$73 million per year in terms of direct health care costs. A recent study by Pfizer put the cost much higher.

**UNICEF says that nearly a billion people will enter the 21<sup>st</sup> century unable to read a book or sign their name and two thirds of them are women.**

### **BUSINESS AND LITERACY**

Touched By The Light want to impact these lives. We want to change these statistics by 2021. In ten years we want to go from a society that has over 2 million men in prison to a society that has less than 10% of this total. Touched By The Light Publishing believes this goal can be reach if we teach people to read. We can stop the flow of men into prison.

Because of the above statistics Touched by The Light Publishing is asking 1 million Americans to teach one person to read. We would like for you to come to our website and add your signature to our One Million American Reading Campaign. You commit yourself to teaching one adult to read. You can teach the adult to read at your local library. You must always stay conscious of your safety. You can conduct the reading sessions on a Saturday early in the day always in a public place. You must know something about that person you are teaching to read. You must be cognizant of the fact that people who cannot read or have difficulty reading will have emotional problems. They can suffer periods of depression or be extremely unhappy because they do not see a future for themselves. They may abuse alcohol or drugs. You will

provide the person with a dictionary, a thesaurus, a writing pad and 3 by 5 cards. You are to encourage the person to use these implements and to build his or her vocabulary. You are to continue to teach that person to read until that individual can read competently. If you earn more than \$250,000 per year you agree to find a school and ensure that every child in that school learns to read above a 4<sup>th</sup> grade level. You are to contract with a reading agency or company and pay for the students at that school who are having problems reading. You must understand a person who cannot read nor has a reading deficiency cannot get a driver's license, he cannot get a legal job as a taxicab driver because he cannot read the street signs, he cannot read to pass the state driving test; he cannot get a job as a waiter because he cannot read the menu. This is why the elimination of the jobs at gas stations had such a devastating effect on the population. Serving up gas provided employment. Go in and get your car washed every week. You must support men working low paying jobs.

## **THE COMMUNITY AND LITERACY - BECOME A PART OF OUR EFFORT**

*"We must save ourselves. The cavalry is not coming. I don't believe that the federal government, a few key corporate titans, or some Act of God is going to fix Michigan's problems; we have to fix them together. Michigan and indeed the nation is in a season of great hardship, but it is also a season of great opportunity." -- D. Alexander Bullock. (Jobs and Justice Meeting March 2011)*

## **THE CHURCH AND LITERACY**

**Churches can play a leading role in changing society by fostering reading and feeding programs throughout the community for children.**

"Our young people are being killed." "We have to take a stand. ... Our babies can't be safe even in their homes. ...The church must take a stand for what's right." "Everyone has to take part. ...Everyone is responsible." Rev. Johnnie Alexander, pastor at Redeem Missionary Baptist Church in Detroit

"We need to take our message to the streets instead of waiting for the streets to come to the church." "We should make our presence felt, in a professional way. Not by saying, 'You're going to hell and you're sinners,' but by saying what can we do to help." Rev. Oscar King, president of the Council and pastor at Northwest Unity Missionary Baptist Church in Detroit.

**TOUCHED BY THE LIGHT PUBLISHING OFFERS A NO RISK, NO UPFRONT COST, HIGH PROFIT FUNDRAISER THAT WILL BENEFIT YOUR CHURCH AND THE COMMUNITY** Our Book Fundraising Program is designed for churches, faith based schools, church youth groups, and other non-profit organizations. The proceeds from our fundraiser can help you expand the services you would like to provide to children such as improving their ability to read. Depending on participation your church can earn from \$8,400 to \$50,000. We are quite serious in supporting organizations that help children. A Touched By The Light Publishing book fundraiser is an innovative way for

churches to raise capital for various projects by using word of mouth and using the Internet to promote the fundraiser. Our fundraiser is quite simple all your congregation or volunteers have to do is ask friends family and coworkers to purchase our books from a TBTL website. The congregation can appeal to friends and family all over the country in person over the phone or over the Internet. Blog radio or other local stations can be used to announce your book fundraiser. Our well thought-out fundraising strategy doesn't make too many demands on any one facet of your organization. Children are not put at risk. The fundraiser is conducted by adults. The fundraiser is not conducted in your sanctuary. Our fundraiser is not time consuming, expensive, nor stressful, and your church will get a lot back for your fundraising efforts. Our fundraisers are well received because our books foster reading self-improvement, problem solving and learning the word of God.

### **MOTHERS WITH CHILDREN IN PRISON AND LITERACY** Support our Adult Literacy Program

Do you have a son or daughter in prison? Are you quietly waiting for his or her release? If so you should watch our literacy video at [www.touchedbythelightliteracyprogram.com](http://www.touchedbythelightliteracyprogram.com) and volunteer to help Touched By The Light Literacy Program by directly friends and family to our website to make a book purchase. The proceeds from these purchases will help us improve the lives of countless prisoners who cannot read. You can also help by asking us to speak throughout the state to raise enough money to send our books to prisoners. You can form a group and find speaking engagement for Touched By The Light speakers. You will be helping your child and someone else's child. Individually we cannot do much but together we can prevail. You should email us for ideas on how to prepare for their release. Literate parolees can readily seek employment or higher education rather than steal.

### **MOTHERS WHO DO NOT HAVE CHILDREN IN PRISON:**

We want you to purchase two books "If You Believe In God You Do Not Belong In Prison" and "You Are The Prophet of your Life." Have everyone in your family read these books then invite our speaker to conduct a Violence Seminar at your local church or youth center. These are hard hitting take no prisoners books. These books have turned prisoners around. We have letters from prisoners thanking us for providing these books to them.

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:**

Experts say the best ways to save an aging brain is to volunteer in a community activity. If you can read and write and can spare a few hours a week, you can volunteer to teach a person to read or tutor in math or other life skills. We need a reading and feeding program in every community. You can get together a group of interest people and begin a reading program for children or adults in your local library or community center. **Add your voice** to the million signature campaign. Come to

[www.touchedbythelightliteracyprogram.com](http://www.touchedbythelightliteracyprogram.com) and sign up and pledge you will teach one person to read. Make a significant difference in a person's life volunteer to teach a person to read. Share a story on line about an experience you had in reading. Do a blog. Pass our message along.

## **FAMILY READING CAMPAIGN**

If a slave can learn to read by moonlight your son can learn to read by neon light.

As a child learns to read, self-esteem and confidence increase and grades improve--even in other subjects such as math and science. We must foster the success of children and adolescents, both at home and in the community; Your life **Starts Now** as soon as you pick up that book and read it. **Why Learn To Read Early?**

Two-thirds of students who cannot read proficiently by the end of the 4th grade will end up in jail or on welfare. The fourth grade is the watershed year

If you want your child to read you must have books all over your home. The books must be in the breakfast nook, in the basemen in your bedroom on the coffee table and in the closet. You child must see you read. He or she should see your face reading the evening paper. There should be books in the car. Young children should be given a book even if he or she cannot read. Give them the book and tell them to read it. What they will do is look at the pictures and describe what they think is happening in the story. Your interaction with their story telling is critical because you are confirming their ability to read. As the young child continues to story tell he or she will learn the appreciation of reading. While you are driving your child to and from day care of school give them a book to read in the car. Tell them your job is to go to work to earn money to provide for the family and their job is to go to school and learn. Tell them they are going to school so they can learn to read so they can make money where they will have a good future.

You must make certain your child can read competently by the fourth grade. If your child is struggling cut out the cigarettes, donuts at work or getting your nails done save this money and enroll your child in a reading class. If your child does not know how to read by age 10 he is well on his way to prison. Ask any counselor at a state youth facility. They will tell you boys enter their facilities at the age 11 for robbery, breaking and entering, purse snatching etc. Once the violent pattern has been establish it is hard to break, therefore it is worth the effort to have a violence prevention program for your son, which means teaching him to read. Male children have a much harder time learning to read without the proper encouragement because their attention is directed elsewhere. Sports are a high priority; social competition and male dominance enters into the picture. Consequently, great emphasis must be placed on setting aside time for males to learn to read and to continue to read throughout adolescence.

Control what your child watches on television. Playing video games should be a reward after the school work is done and a book is read. Proper sleep and nutrition age

important in learning. No late night television during school nights. Do not forget **You** are the example.

## **PLEASE HELP**

We would like for you to do two things to support our efforts toward total literacy for the country. One please asks your friends, family and coworkers to visit our Facebook page at Touched By The Light Publishing Literacy Program and read our message. Secondly, we would like for you to purchase our publication "If You Believe In God You Do Not Belong In Prison" for every male in your family. This book was written to **stop the flow of men** into prisons leaving their children behind. **No child** should have to visit his or her father in prison. We thank you in advance for your participation. **When you read for knowledge everyday you can look forward to a better life.** Reading magazines and newspapers "are the best way not to not remain speechless."

Regarding our offer on page 28 we reserve the right to reject any information or website that is pornographic, racially insensitive or otherwise offensive. Our goal is to be a service to the community.