

## Upcoming Kairos Outside Weekend #26

March 2-4, 2012

If you or someone you may know is a female facing challenges of life with an incarcerated loved one, then this weekend is just what you need. Come and experience God's true and on-going unconditional love. You will have a safe place to "rest" and a wonderful team of women who want to carry your "LOAD" all because we understand. If you are interested please call Chariti @ 713-412-0216 {KOH cell}. We will sign you up for our weekend retreat and discuss any special needs you may have. Can't wait to hear from you!!

### **Be a Support Volunteer:**

Each KO retreat weekend has opportunities for many levels support either by participation for ALL Kairos events or just a few hours of donated time during the weekend. Contact us to find out how!! 713-412-0216

### **Be a Ministry Financial Donor:**

All Kairos Outside activities are funded by donations. If you would like to support this weekend or the ministry by your donation, make your check payable {any amount is appreciated!} to: **Kairos Outside**

PO Box 841213

Houston, TX 77284

## Get Involved!

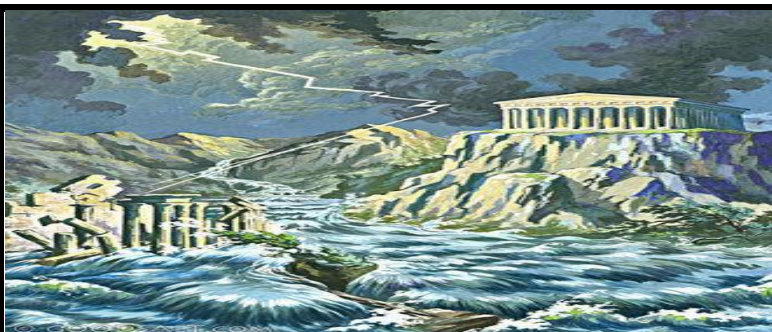
### Here's How You Can Participate...

#### **Be a team member:**

Kairos Outside volunteers come from all walks and strata of life. They all share a desire to follow Christ's admonition of Matthew 25:36, "I was in prison and you visited me." If you feel God's call to minister to women whose lives have been impacted by incarceration of a loved one, you can call the Kairos of Houston Community cell: 713-412-0216, to inquire.

#### **Be a Prayer Partner:**

All Kairos activities are covered with prayer. You can be part of that prayer effort. Contact us to find out how!! Please call: 713-412-0216.



"The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock." -Matthew 7:25-

## **Kairos Outside Houston Announces: Fall Retreat Day**

**KOH will be hosting a one day fall retreat for women who have attended a KO weekend as a guest OR have served as a team member on a KO weekend. We hope to keep our "Outside" female community growing, connected, and united.**

**When: Saturday, October 1, 2011**

**Where: Mission Bend United Methodist Church:**

**Time: 9:00am until 3:00pm**

**Food and child care provided by the gracious members of Mission Bend UMC at no cost to the KOH community. Come and join us as we celebrate each other and the one common goal we all share, to continue to reach out to women who share the journey of incarceration with a loved one. To provide a supportive helping hand, an understanding listening ear, and an undying loving heart that will forever be open to all who need it.**

**For questions please call the KOH community cell: 713-412-0216 or visit: [kairosoutsidehouston.org](http://kairosoutsidehouston.org)**



Have you ever been in a place so dark and empty that you thought you would never survive? A place where you thought everyone thought you were worthless, including yourself? If you have never been through that kind of depression, then you have been truly blessed. If you have or you are now going through that kind of depression, I pray that this will bring you hope.

No one really knows what it is like until they are there. They say until you have walked in someone else's shoes you can't know what they are going through. I stayed in a depression for almost 3 years. I did not want to go anywhere... not even to church. I did not care if I lived or died. "Shame" and "Guilt" took over my whole life. I have 2 sons in the prison system. I kept that secret for a very long time. I took all the shame and guilt of that on myself, even though I knew they made the choice to do the things they did. However, that really did not matter. After all, I was their mom... why couldn't I have done something to save them from themselves?

A few years ago, my husband made it possible for me to go on a Kairos Outside weekend and it changed my life in many ways. I realized that I was not the only mom out there that had loved ones in prison. I listened to some of the women on that weekend who cared enough to open their hearts to us by sharing their testimonies. There was one story that really opened my heart to take it all in. Throughout my weekend, I heard testimonies that made me think that God was speaking to me. I realized that on that weekend God spoke to me in the way He knew I would pay attention... through those women. I was amazed at all the love that was felt throughout that weekend. It touched me so much to see the men in the kitchen working so hard and smiling the whole time... just to make us happy. Not only did they feed my belly, but they fed my spirit.

The chapel was where I felt God's love for me. I was overwhelmed I when I saw my sons' pictures on that altar and I heard God tell me they were grown men and "they" made the choices, not me. In that chapel I realized that no matter how hard we try to change someone, they still will make their own choice, good or bad. I felt God's love throughout the rest of the weekend and I will never forget all the love that came from the women and men on that weekend. I believe they saved my life. I no longer feel alone in this world. I no longer feel unloved by God. I know now that we are all here to serve each other with love, understanding, and forgiveness. Forgiveness comes as long as we ask for it. God loves us unconditionally... we are not alone. My prayer is that if you have a loved one incarcerated and have never gone on a Kairos Outside weekend, please consider attending. I believe you will be blessed beyond measure! Then, you can come back to work a team. You will be even more blessed when you pay it forward!

### **Melvin's Corner-Good Eats**

**Ingredients:**

8 slices of bread (cubed)	4 eggs
¾ lb Cheddar cheese (shredded)	1½ cups milk
1½ lbs fresh ground pork sausage (spicy or mild)	1 T mustard
1 c cream cheese	1 can (10.75oz) Cream of Mushroom soup (undiluted)
1 c cream	¼ c chicken broth

Cut bread into cubes. Place bread cubes in greased 13in X 9in baking pan. Sprinkle with both cheeses. Heat skillet over medium heat; cook & stir sausage until crumbly and brown in color. Pour over cheese & bread. In a mixing bowl, beat 4 eggs, milk, mustard, & soup. Pour over sausage & refrigerate overnight. Remove from refrigerator 30 minutes before baking. Bake @ 350 degrees F for 56-60 minutes (uncovered). Cut & serve. Look for more yummy recipes like this in future KOH newsletters!

*"Relieve the trouble of my heart and bring me out of my distress." Psalm 25:17*

**KOH council will be hosting several upcoming fundraising event... STAY TUNED FOR FURTHER DETAILS & OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE!!**

### **Guest Recruitment Ideas!**

Churches	WIC
Thrift Stores	Chaplains
Street Ministries	Hair Salons
Women's Shelters	Work Source
Homeless Shelters	Barber Shops
Child Protective Svcs	Bail Bondsmen
Fast Food Restaurants	Probation Ofc
Drug/Alcohol Treatment Facilities	Parole Office
Public/Apartment Laundry Facilities	
Mothers/Wives/Sisters of incarcerated men	
Texas Department of Health & Human Svcs	

### *Pray Pray Pray*

These miracles would not be possible without the prayers of our faithful community and partners like you. KOH requests you continue to lift us up as we fulfill the commission God has called us to. Our goals are to show God's unconditional love, provide strength and hope for those who need and want it, and to draw others who have a servant's heart into this ministry. Thank You.



### **Save the Date!**

**2011 Summer Conference August 2-6,**

**2011 Radisson Inn ~ Manchester, NH**

Enrollment forms: [mykairos.org](http://mykairos.org)

We are all welcome to attend-KO units are encouraged to have a state rep present as they do vote on International issues abroad.

### **Kairos Mission Statement**

**The mission of Kairos Prison Ministry is to bring Christ's love and forgiveness to all incarcerated individuals, their families and those who work with them, and to assist in the transition of becoming a productive citizen.**



**"If Christ be for you who could stand against YOU!!!"**



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KOH 2nd Quarter Newsletter-2011