

Vocation as Ministry

Speaking and Living Justice



1

Introduction

Remember those in prison



2



...remember **those in prison** as if you were together with them in prison and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

HEBREWS 13:3

3 | Remember those in prison



3

What We Do

Restore Prisoners

Our biblically based programs and training help men and women participate in a positive community behind bars, discover new paths for their lives, and continue in the freedom of a transformed life.

Equip Leaders

Warden Exchange convenes corrections officials who want to enhance their leadership skills, exchange transformative best practices, and join a network of peers committed to creating safer communities inside and outside of prison.

Minister to Families

Prison Fellowship Angel Tree™ serves incarcerated parents by providing a pathway for restoring and strengthening their relationships with their children and families.

4

4

What We Do

Support Successful Reentry

Prison Fellowship works with local churches and community organizations to connect returning men and women with reentry resources and support that will help them transition successfully into life after prison.

Advocate for Justice Reform

Prison Fellowship advocates for federal and state criminal justice reforms that help transform those responsible for crime, validate victims, and encourage churches and communities to play a role in creating a safe, redemptive, and just society.

5

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SECTION 01

SECTION 02

SECTION 03

SECTION 04

But what is
Vocation?

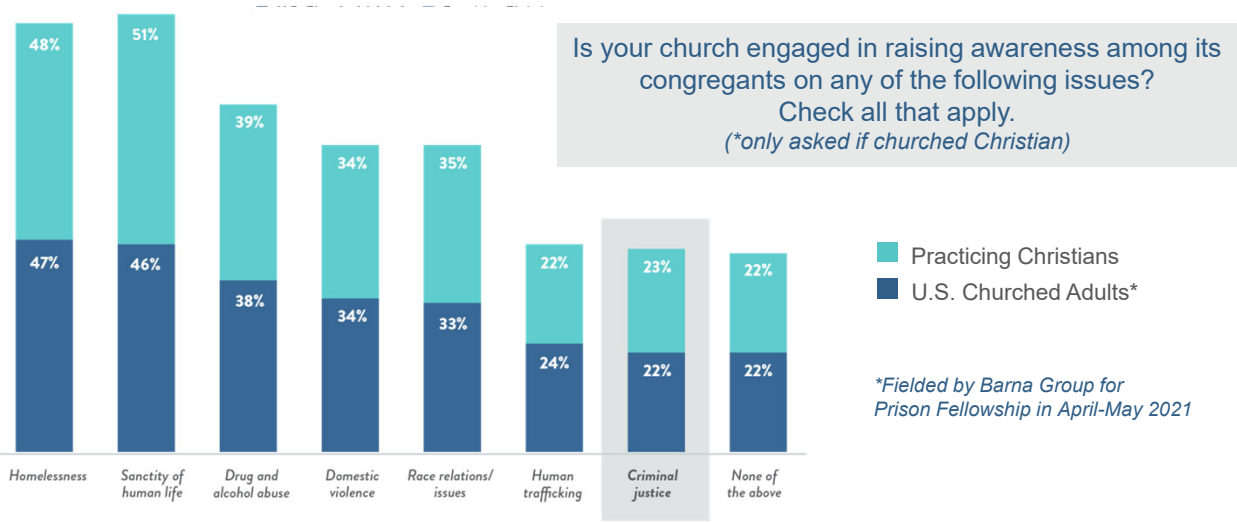
6 Remember those in prison

6



7

The Problem: Inadequate Engagement



Remember those in prison



8

SECTION 01

SECTION 02

SECTION 03

SECTION 04

Vocation is...
Ministry

9 Remember those in prison

9

The Solution

01

HELP
 prisoners find
 a new life path.

02






CARE
 for the families
 of prisoners.

03


GIVE
 former prisoners
 a second chance.

10 | Remember those in prison

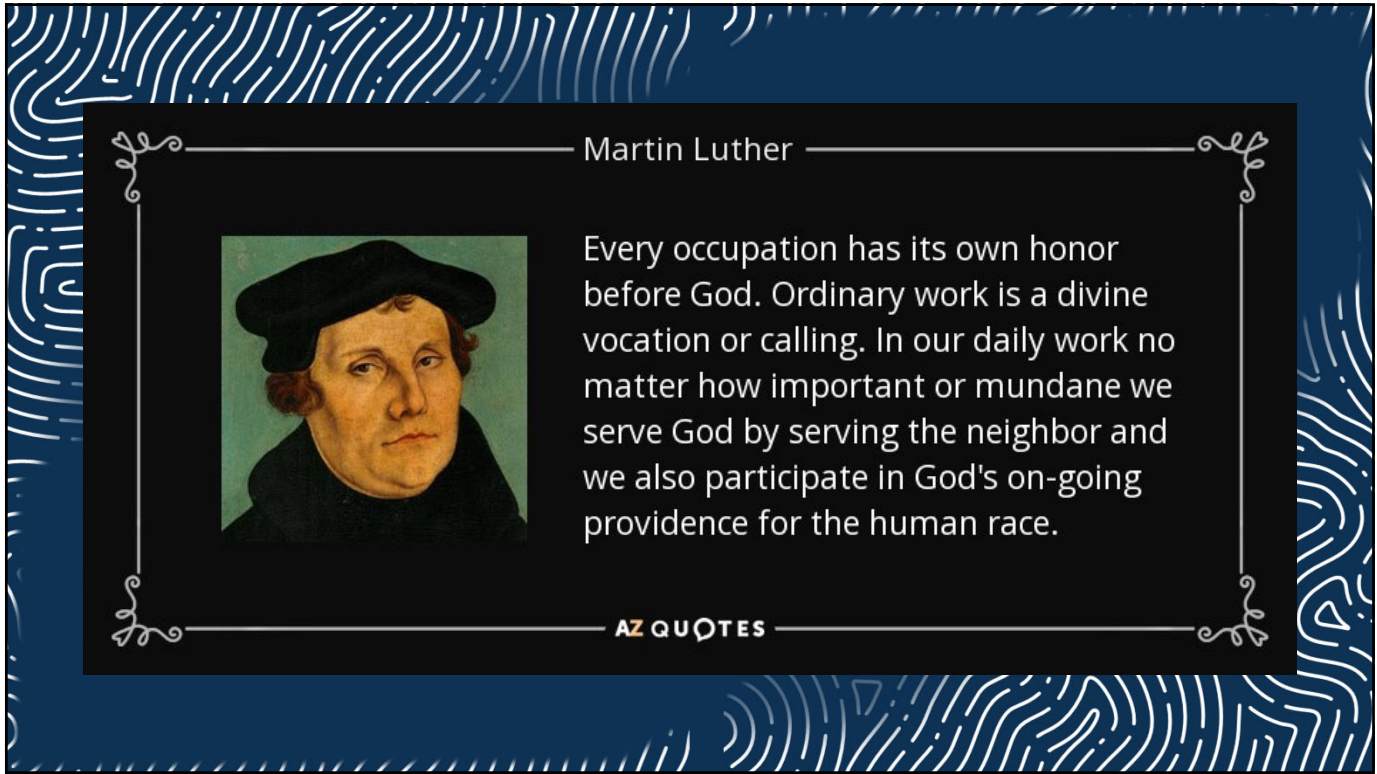
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<p>MOSES</p> 	<p>DAVID</p> 	<p>ZACCHAEUS</p> 	<p>PAUL</p> 	
<p>11 Remember those in prison</p>				


11

<p>Remember those in prison</p>	<p>“Moses spent forty years thinking he was somebody; forty years learning he was nobody; and forty years discovering what God can do with a nobody.”</p>	
<p>D.L. MOODY @ALEXANDRIACHURCHOFGOD</p>		

12



Martin Luther



Every occupation has its own honor before God. Ordinary work is a divine vocation or calling. In our daily work no matter how important or mundane we serve God by serving the neighbor and we also participate in God's on-going providence for the human race.

AZ QUOTES

13



"PREACH THE GOSPEL, DIE,
AND BE FORGOTTEN"

NICOLAUS ZINZENDORF

14 | Remember those in prison



14



15 | Remember those in prison



15

In Prison for a Purpose

IN 1974

Chuck Colson, a top aide to President Nixon, entered a plea of guilty to a Watergate-related charge. Although not implicated in the Watergate burglary, he voluntarily pleaded guilty to obstruction of justice. As a new Christian, he served seven months in Alabama's Maxwell Federal Prison Camp.



16 | Remember those in prison



16

In Prison for a Purpose

BELIEVING THAT GOD WAS CALLING HIM

to remember the people affected by incarceration, Chuck Colson founded Prison Fellowship in 1976. Today the ministry is the nation's largest Christian nonprofit serving prisoners, former prisoners, and their families.



17 | Remember those in prison



17

OUR MISSION

is to restore those affected by crime and incarceration.

OUR VISION

is to see all affected by crime reconciled to God, their families, and their communities.

18 | Remember those in prison



18

OUR PASSION

Prison Fellowship was founded on the conviction that **all people are created in God’s image** and that **no life is beyond God’s reach**. As Christians, we believe that Jesus—Himself brought to trial, executed, buried, and brought to life again—offers **hope, healing, and a new purpose for each life**. Through an **amazing awakening to new hope and life purpose**, those who once broke the law are transformed and mobilized to serve their neighbors, replacing the cycle of crime with a **cycle of renewal**.

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Our Impact

7,222

PRISONERS
participating in Prison Fellowship classes each month

8,200+

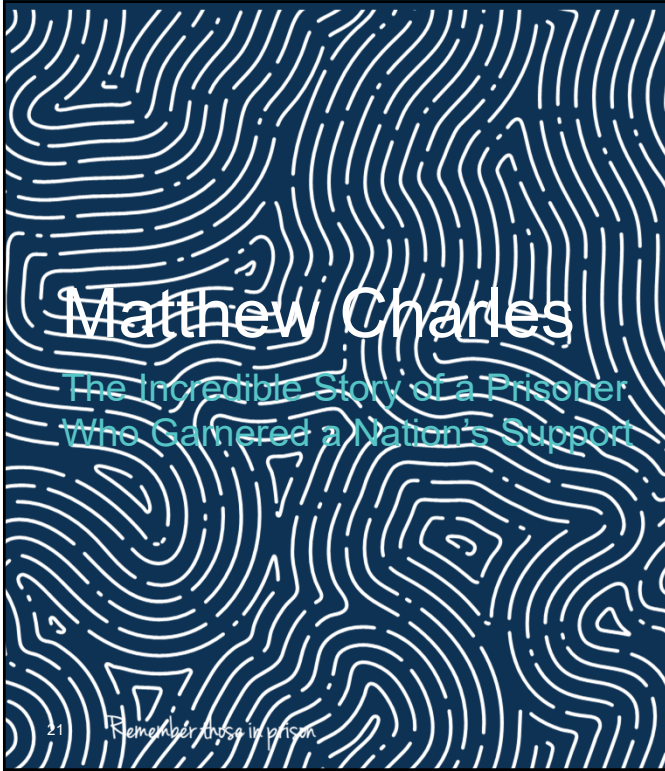
VOLUNTEERS
across the country

236,965

CHILDREN
Connected to a church in 2021 to receive the Gospel and a Christmas gift on behalf of an incarcerated parent

20 | Remember those in prison



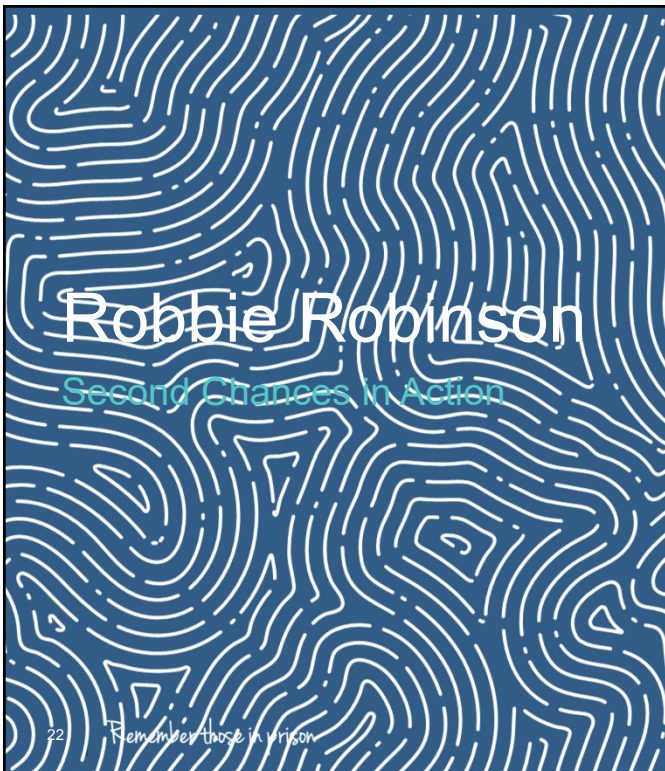


Matthew Charles
The Incredible Story of a Prisoner
Who Garnered a Nation's Support

21 Remember those in prison



21



Robbie Robinson
Second Chances in Action

22 Remember those in prison



22

SECTION 01

SECTION 02

SECTION 03

SECTION 04

Pursuing Righteousness in Vocation

Leading with Values

23 Remember those in prison

23

Our Approach: Justice that Restores

We advocate for a criminal justice system that:

- Recognizes and advances the dignity and value of human life
- Prioritizes victim participation
- Cultivates community engagement
- Promotes proportional punishment, constructive corrections culture, and closure for those who have paid their debt to society



HARMED PARTY



RESPONSIBLE PARTY



COMMUNITY

24 | Remember those in prison



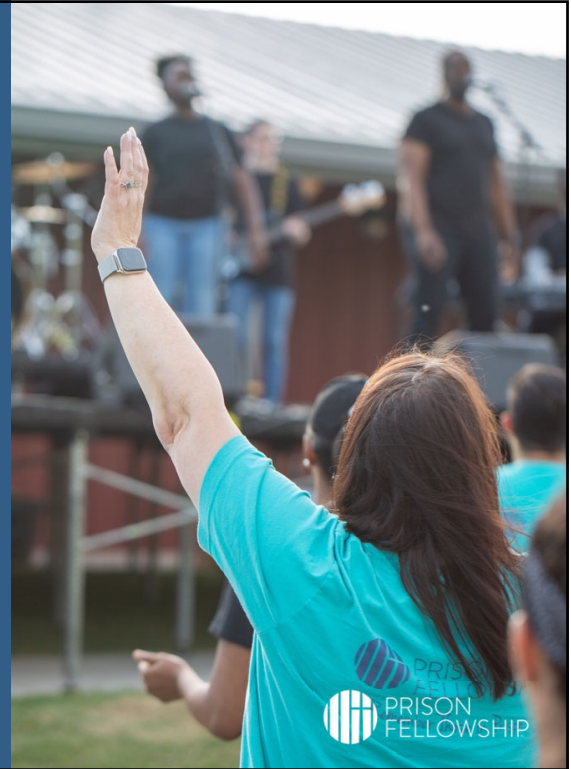
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Leading with Values

Christian Perspectives on Justice

- Affirm that the God of the Bible is a just God: *justice flows from God's very character*
- Treat every human being as a person made in God's own image
- Redouble our efforts to prevent crime by cultivating the "*seedbeds of virtue*," including families, churches, neighborhoods, schools, and other sources of moral formation

25 | Remember those in prison



25

SECTION 01

SECTION 02

SECTION 03

SECTION 04

Practical Ideas:

Putting Your Faith Into Action

26 | Remember those in prison

26

“”

Learn to do good;
seek justice, correct
oppression.

ISAIAH 1:17

“”

Open your mouth,
judge righteously,
defend the rights of
the poor and needy.

PROVERBS 31:9

27 | Remember those in prison



27

Practical Steps

Advocate for Justice Reform

Prison Fellowship advocates for federal and state criminal justice reforms that help transform those responsible for crime, validate victims, and encourage churches and communities to play a role in creating a safe, redemptive, and just society.

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28



29

Change Your Language

Labels are powerful

- Can separate people into “us” and “them”
- Felon. Convict. Ex-offender. Inmate.
- We don’t want to be identified by our sins but by our relationship in Christ.

Change your language to reflect human dignity

- We are all made in God’s image
- “People in prison” and “returning neighbors”



30

30



What is the role of the church?

We believe Scripture teaches that the Church is the **primary conduit** for God's ongoing ministry here on Earth.

For this reason, we delight to be a part of **equipping the Church** for works of service. As we work with incarcerated people and their families, we recall Jesus' words not to forget "**justice, mercy, and faithfulness**" (MATTHEW 23:23).

31 | Remember those in prison



31

Thank You

QUESTIONS?

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32

