PRISON: A PLACE THE ENTIRE CHURCH CAN SERVE

Audryanna Reed
Mission 61:1
One Community Church

COMMON CONGREGANT HESITATIONS

- Prisons are dangerous
- The prison is too far away
- Don't have enough time/volunteer hours don't align with availability
- Driving concerns
- Too much commitment

A Different Mission Field

COMMON PRISON MINISTRY CHALLENGES

- Not enough volunteers
- Need financial resources to scale up programming
- State volunteer approval process is delayed
- Not enough church support

A Different Mission Field

MATT 28:19-20

A Different Mission Field

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

HOW TO SUPPORT MISSIONARIES

- 1. GO
- 2. GIVE
- 3. PARTNER
- 4. PRAY

GO into all the world, representing Christ with every step

GIVE to support the spread of the Gospel & Love of Jesus Christ

PARTNER with local organizations who serve the incarcerated

PRAY for all the justice impacted and correctional staff to know Christ and embrace His love

PATHWAYS FOR CHURCH ENGAGEMENT

Recruit volunteers to GO into the prison



- Establish a cadence and frequency that works for your volunteers
- Establish a carpool system
- Host occasional events

Empower Church Members to GIVE

- Create sustainable sponsorship pathways for members, show them what they are contributing to, and ask for consistent commitment
 - Sponsor for 10 Pizzas for Family Day, once a quarter
 - Bring soap, deodorant, toothpaste for 10 men once a month
 - Provide cookies to the facility staff quarterly



GIVE Local Businesses the Opportunity to Serve



- Seek sponsorships, discounts, and donations from local businesses
 - Start early and be persistent

Forge PARTNERships with other Ministries



- Seek to partner with organizations that support the justice-impacted without going into prisons
 - Crossroads, Youth with Faces, Exodus

Create intentional opportunities for PRAY requests

- Collect pray requests from:
 - the incarcerated
 - the correctional staff
 - the volunteers

PRAY

CREATE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CONGREGATION SYNERGY BY...

- 1. Knowing who is in your congregation a. Building relationships
- 2. Continuing to share your elevator pitch
- 3. Telling the story
- 4. Getting to know what other ministries are doing and making the synergy clear for them
- 5. Asking others "who do you know that I need to know?"

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