

#### Community Partnerships: Getting the Church Involved in Your Ministry

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# **Encountering Jesus Together**

#### **Opening prayer – God's best practices**

Have a mindset of Kingdom Growth rather than personal gain.

Utilize your resources well.

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" 1 Thess. 5:17



# Workshop objectives

What we will accomplish today..

- Understand the value of church partnerships
  - > Explore practical ways to engage churches
    - Develop a partnership action plan



# **Biblical Foundation for Partnership**

Biblical encouragement for working alongside others

1 Corinthians 12:12–27 - The Body of Christ

Ecclesiastes 4:9–12 - Strength in Unity

God designed us for community and collaboration



# Why Churches Need to Be Involved

Wanting relationship is important

- Churches are rooted in their communities
  - They are equipped for service and care
  - Shared mission: extending Christ's love
- Mutual benefits: discipleship, outreach, engagement



# **Identifying Ministry Needs**

How the church comes alongside you...

#### **Areas for partnership:**

- Volunteers
- Physical space
- Financial support
- Spiritual covering and prayer



### Understanding the Church's Perspective

... overcoming hesitations

- Churches have limited time & resources
- They prioritize spiritual growth and community
  - > Align your vision with theirs
- Be clear, concise, and respectful in your approach



# Ways to Engage the Church

How you come alongside the church

Invite them to speak or tour your ministry

- Host joint service projects
  - Prayer partnerships
- Share success stories and reports
- Ask for specific support (bulletins, space, donations)



# **Building the Relationship**

Build trust before making an ask

- Maintain regular communication
  - Celebrate wins together
  - Acknowledge their impact



### **Success Stories**

The fruit of the Spirit...

Angel Tree Christmas + Mariners Church Irvine, CA Justice Reform + Formerly Incarcerated Man/Saints Church, NYC Prison Fellowship Academy + Church Collective in Houston, TX



# **Creating a Church Partnership Plan**

**Practical Next Steps** 

- 1. Identify a list of churches/contacts
- 2. Define your need clearly
- 3. Craft your message
- 4. Choose your top 3 asks (always include prayer)
- 5. Set a timeline for follow-up



## **Group Discussion**

Final Thoughts & Prayer

Question: "What is one way your ministry could invite a church into deeper partnership this year?"



# PRISON FELLOWSHIP

Seek justice. Love mercy. Restore hope.