



Ministering to Those With a History of Sexual Sin

-Chandler Fozard



HOPE Prison Ministries

God + Community = HOPE

www.HOPEGivesBack.com

Introduction & Testimony

God's Grace in My Story



"who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

- 2 Corinthians 1:4

Transformed by Grace

What Grace Has Done in My Life



- Today, I am a husband of 24 years, father, grandfather, pastor, author, teacher and mentor.
- Founder of **HOPE** Prison Ministries, planted More Than Redemption **CHURCH**, founder and Managing partner at **HOPE** For Everybody.
- God didn't just forgive me...He transformed me.
- This is the fruit of grace, the gospel, mentoring and accountability OR, as our tagline states:

God + Community = **HOPE**

Not All Are the Same

Sex Offender ≠ Sexual Predator

- Society hears “sex offender” and thinks “predator” or “monster” e.g. John Wayne Gacy or Ted Bundy.
- Less than 1% of registrants fit these violent, sociopathic profiles.
- The law applies the broad label of “sex offender” to very different offenses.
- Ministry to these must start by understanding...not assuming.
- A lesson learned from my wife about parenting: ask questions, get the facts, don’t assume.



The Legal Landscape

The Wide Spectrum of Offenses

“Generally, there is a global understanding that the crime of rape is illegal and should be punished. Yet, criminalized conduct ranges across a broad spectrum of culpability including public nudity, indecent exposure (“flashing”), public urination, “sexting,” sex between consenting minors (statutory rape), soliciting sex workers, illegal image creation (e.g., a minor taking a nude photo of themselves), illegal image sharing (e.g., a minor sharing a nude photo of themselves), the creation or dissemination of sexually explicit images of youth, incest, to acts of fondling, sodomy, and rape using force.”

- Kristen M. Budd, P.H.D (*Response to crimes of a sexual nature*)



When the System Gets It Wrong

Case Studies in Overreach

“According to the U.S. Bureau of Justice (2016), the age with the greatest number of sex offenders is 14. Much like adult offenders, they are required to register leaving them stained forever.”
- Marshall Frank



Grace Requires Wisdom

- Wikipedia

Item #	Risk Factor	Codes	Score
	Age		
	Aged 18 to 34.9		1
	Aged 35 to 39.9		0
	Aged 40 to 59.9		-1
	60 and older		-3
	Arrested for at least two		
			0
			1
			0
			1
		<u>Convictions</u>	
		0	0
		1	1
		2,3	2
		4+	3
			0
			1
			0
			1
			0
			1
			0
			1
			0
			1
		on individual risk	



Understanding Recidivism

Will They Reoffend?



- Common concern: “What if they do it again?”
- Fear often comes from media, not data.
- As the Church, we’re called to walk in truth—both scriptural and statistical.

What the Data Actually Says

Recidivism Rates: Fact vs. Fiction

- A 2002 study by the OJP followed 9,691 male sex offenders and non-sex offenders released from prison in 15 U.S. states.



What This Means for the Church

Fear Must Give Way to Wisdom

- Re-offense is possible—but not inevitable.
- Factors like age, gender of victim, and offense type help assess risk.
- Static-99R is a tool—not a guarantee.
- We must create boundaries based on facts, not fear.



Redemption with Accountability

Hope and Boundaries Can Coexist



- **Redemption is real—but not blind.**
- **Ministry must include:**
 - Clear limits
 - Support systems
 - Ongoing assessment
- **Grace is not naivety. Grace is strength rooted in the cross.**

The Ministry Mindset

Evangelist & Pastor: Two Roles

“We believe that God’s design for sexuality requires us to steward our sexuality in one of two ways, both motivated by love for and devotion to Christ: either by desiring and expressing our sexuality exclusively toward an opposite-sex spouse in Christian marriage, or by chaste, celibate, and faithful devotion to the Lord in singleness.”

(1 Corinthians 7:1–11, 32–40)

- Harvest USA



Secrecy Is the Real Enemy

The Lie of Isolation



- All sexual sin thrives in the dark.
- Common belief: “My sin is worse, different, unredeemable.”
- Truth: No sin is beyond hope.
- Ministry must break secrecy and restore dignity.

Your Sin Is Not Unique

God Tailors Trials to Fit Us



“No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.”

- 1 Corinthians 10:13

Biblical Change in Action

The 'Put Off / Put On' Process

“Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? ²⁰ For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body ^[g]and in your spirit, which are God’s.

7:1 Now concerning the things of which you wrote to me:

It is good for a man not to touch a woman. ² Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband. ³ Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband. ⁴ The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband *does*. And likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife *does*.” (I Corinthians 6:18-7:4)



Key Ministry Principles

Truth and Grace Together

“It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.”

- C.S. Lewis (The Weight of Glory)



Honesty About Hard Topics

Let's Talk About the Taboo



- Pornography has victims—it's not harmless.
- Masturbation is self-focused—it is not sacrificial love.
- Same-sex attraction: not about instant “conversion,” but about dying to self and living for Christ.
- Change comes through the cross, not quick fixes.

Creating Safe Spaces

Can They Confess to You?

- **Paul Tripp: “A Dangerous Calling”**
Ministry becomes dangerous when leaders can’t be honest.
- **We all must guard against creating environments where honesty feels unsafe.**
- **Tripp said that someone confessing to us is like they are giving us a piece of fine China from their cabinet—it must be handled with care.**
- **Ask yourself: Are you a safe person to whom to confess?**



Compassion With Context

Understand the Root Behind the Sin

“What is unrecognized is the trauma histories of individuals who have perpetrated CSN and how those trauma histories influence behavior.”

-Kristen M. Budd, P.H.D (Responding to crimes of a sexual nature)



We're All Broken

We All Need the Savior

- Every one of us is sexually broken in some way.
- Ministry starts with remembering our own chains.
- Truth must be spoken—in love.
- Scripture, not opinion, is our guide, the authority.



What Is True Freedom?

The Train Runs Best on Tracks



What Lies Beneath?

Dig Into the Desires

**"For my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me,
the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves,
broken cisterns that can hold no water."**

- Jeremiah 2:13



Seeking False Refuge

Self or Savior

“14 For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died;
15 and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.”

- 2 Corinthians 5:14-15



Accountability That Works

Support Without Extremes



- **Real accountability:**
 - Must be mutual
 - Must go beyond behavior to the heart
 - Should be proactive—before, during, and after temptation
 - Must be long-term
- **Avoid two traps:**
 - Savior complex
 - Cop mentality
- **Accountability Tools:**
 - <https://www.mmguardian.com>
 - <https://www.qustodio.com>
 - Apple doesn't play nice with monitoring apps

How You Can Make a Difference

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