Resource List: Prison Ministry

The resources listed here align with Focus on the Family’s philosophy and mission. Call us at 1-800-A-FAMILY, or visit our online store at store.focusonthefamily.com. (Information is regularly updated, but it’s still possible that an item originally available from Focus on the Family is now unavailable.) You might also be interested in content posted on our website at focusonthefamily.com.

Included

Books
Broadcasts
Resource Lists and Q&As
Referrals

Books

Basic Christianity by John Stott (2012) • 9780830834136

Stott (1921–2011) explores the historical truths of Christianity. “If Jesus was not God in human flesh, Christianity is exploded. We are left with just another religion with some beautiful ideas and noble ethics; its unique distinction has gone.”

Between a Rock and a Grace Place: Divine Surprises in the Tight Spots of Life by Carol Kent (2010) • 9780310337577

With her only son serving a life sentence for murder, Kent is all too familiar with heartache. She writes how seemingly insurmountable challenges can transform our lives when we learn to rest in God’s sovereign care.

 Born Again by Charles Colson (2008) • 9780800794590

Colson tells the story of his search for meaning while serving as special counsel to President Nixon during the Watergate investigations. He discovered new life—not in success and power, but in disgrace and behind bars.

The Case for Christ by Lee Strobel (1998) • 9780310345862

A seasoned journalist in search of the truth, Strobel recounts his journey from atheism to faith in this compelling look at the credible evidence that Jesus of Nazareth was—and is—positively the Son of God!

God Gives Second Chances by R.T. Kendall (2008) • 9781599792538

“How to Get Up, Dust Off and Be Used by God When You Fall”

Grace Behind Bars by Bo and Gari Mitchell (2017) • 9781589978737

“One Unexpected Path to True Freedom”

Grace for the Moment by Max Lucado (2000) • 9780849995624

This year-long devotional features previously published meditations by Lucado. Each entry includes a Bible verse and a brief meditation, all designed to remind readers of their inestimable value to God.

Healing the Masculine Soul by Gordon Dalbey (2003) • 9780849944383

“How God Restores Men to Real Manhood”

Hope Again by Dr. Charles Swindoll (1997) • 9780849940880

“When Life Hurts and Dreams Fade”
How to Begin the Christian Life by George Sweeting (2012) • 9780802435828
Sweeting defines what a Christian is and how a new believer can grow spiritually. He relies on scriptural references as he covers important concepts of prayer, the Holy Spirit, the Bible, and sharing your faith.

The Last Addiction: Why Self-Help Is Not Enough by Sharon Hersh (2008) • 9780877882039
“Own Your Desire, Live Beyond Recovery, Find lasting Freedom”

Lord, I Give You This Day by Kay Arthur (2005) • 9781400071609
“366 Appointments With God”

A New Kind of Normal: Hope-Filled Choices When Life Turns Upside Down by Carol Kent (2007) • 9780849964718
Kent’s only son was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. She shares the difficulties of the journey—and she recounts biblical stories of struggle to describe how God can lead any willing heart to choose life, gratitude, vulnerability, involvement, forgiveness, trust, and action.

Real Christianity by William Wilberforce (2006) • 9780764216312
Bob Beltz translates the writings of Wilberforce regarding slavery into a modern paraphrase that brings to light today’s watered-down view of sin and evil. Find timeless truths, and discover an authentic faith in Christ.

When God Doesn’t Make Sense by Dr. James Dobson (2012) • 9781414371153
“Holding on to Your Faith During the Hardest Times”

When I Lay My Isaac Down: Unshakeable Faith in Unthinkable Circumstances by Carol Kent (2004) • 9781612914428
When her only son committed murder, Kent was forced to leave him in the hands of God. She offers several principles to help bolster your faith, renew your hope, and challenge you to new levels of spiritual renewal.

Allowing God to Use All Things for Good (Grove Norwood) • 9781624715136
Grove Norwood prayed that God would allow him to help someone else in a tangible way. He had no idea it would be his friend Ulice Parker after Ulice accidentally killed Grove’s daughter in a tragic hit-and-run accident. Their story is a powerful reminder that each of us needs to forgive and be forgiven.

Discovering God’s Grace Behind Bars (Bo and Gari Mitchell) • 2350000010478
The Mitchells discuss Bo’s involvement in a business scandal that led to him serving 11 months in prison for bank fraud. They describe how God used this situation to transform and heal their family.

Trusting God When the Unthinkable Happens (Carol Kent) • 2350000004026
Kent shares the journey of her son’s conviction and sentence to life in prison for killing his wife’s abusive ex-husband. Through it all, she has seen God answer many prayers, and she has learned the power of heartache, community, faith, and speaking up.

A Visit With Chuck Colson (Chuck Colson) • 9781624713651
Colson discusses his experiences as an aide to President Nixon and his involvement in the Watergate scandal. He also explains how he came to faith in Jesus Christ and why he founded Prison Fellowship Ministries.

Resource Lists

- focusonthefamily.com/family-q-and-a/resources-and-referrals
  Find recommended resources and referrals listed by topic, including the following:
  - Christian Growth for Adults • RL022
  - Overcoming Sexual Brokenness • RL050
  - Substance Abuse • RL049
Q&As

- focusonthefamily.com/family-q-and-a
  Browse our Q&As for advice and encouragement.

Focus on the Family Counseling Consultation Line

Focus on the Family offers a free phone counseling consultation with a licensed counselor. They’re here to listen and pray with you, as well as provide initial guidance and resources to help you and your family. Call 1-855-771-HELP (4357), Monday through Friday, 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM (MT) to arrange a call back.

Focus on the Family’s Christian Counselor Network

Search for licensed Christian counselors in your area: FocusOnTheFamily.com/FindACounselor

Awana Lifeline

1 East Bode Road
Streamwood, IL  60107
888/944-4292
awanalifeline.org
  This organization equips incarcerated mothers and fathers with tools for healthy living and godly parenting.

Bethel Bible Village

3001 Hamill Road
Hixson, TN  37343
423/842-5757
bbv.org
  This outreach ministers to children of prisoners.

Crossroad Bible Institute

P.O. Box 900
Grand Rapids, MI  49509
800/668-2450
crossroadbible.org
  This ministry disciples prison inmates through Bible studies and personal letters of encouragement from trained instructors.

Emmaus Bible College

2570 Asbury Road
Dubuque, IA  52001
800/397-2425
emmaus.edu
  This organization offers extensive Bible study and Christian growth materials.

Koinonia House National Ministries

P.O. Box 1415
Wheaton, IL  60187
630/221-9930
koinoniathouse.org
  Through biblical discipleship, this ministry enables inmates to transition from prison to the local church, the workplace, and society.
Prison Ministry

Prison Fellowship
44180 Riverside Parkway
Lansdowne, VA  20176
800/206-9764

- This ministry brings the Gospel to prisoners, ex-prisoners, and their families through evangelism, instruction and visitation. They also provide pre-release counseling and support, and after-release assistance.

- Justice Fellowship seeks to promote victims’ rights, alternative forms of sentencing, victim-offender reconciliation, and church-based victim assistance programs.

- Angel Tree provides Christmas gifts for children of prisoners. They also offer a monthly newsletter, “Jubilee,” and a bi-monthly newspaper, “Inside Journal,” which is sent to correctional facilities across North America.

Someone Cares Prison Ministry
P.O. Box 11245
Fort Wayne, IN  46856
260/387-7423
someonecares.org

- This Christian ministry reaches out to inmates through letter correspondence. They publish a free monthly newsletter, and they conduct seminars for churches and other interested groups.