



Workshop Descriptions 2025

Workshop Session I *Friday May 2 1:30-3:00pm*

Maximizing Your Personal Ministry: Applying Biblical Wisdom to Your Engagements Behind Bars

Cam Abell | Often volunteers and chaplains run too far, too fast and too soon in their ministry without applying Biblical wisdom and discernment. We will discuss 10 principles of wisdom that can lead to greater receptivity to ministry in the incarcerated setting. Cam Abell is the Assistant Director of Chaplains with Good News Global, having trained chaplains and volunteers in the US and globally.

Hope Restored: Biblical Hope and Healing for Trauma

Cathy Applington & Jane Hannah | Those impacted by incarceration are invariably influenced by personal trauma. Ministering to this vulnerable audience requires a balance of practical and Biblical truth to bring encouragement and hope to help process difficult realities. Cathy and Jane are Co-Founders and Executive Directors of Sanctuary in Trauma, a gospel-centered community desiring to help those who have suffered trauma and loss.

Meaningful Relationships: The Secret Ingredient to Successful Reentry Programming

Jack Cowley & Stephen Madosky | The component of Reentry Programming that has not made the "Best Practices" list but has proven to be essential in providing desired outcomes for transition from confinement to release will be discussed. Jack Cowley is the National Director of Damascus Reentry, Inc. Dr. Stephen Madosky is the Florida Director of Damascus Reentry, Inc.

Housing Crisis in Reentry: What can you do?

Andrew Foster, Don & Michelle Harvey | Inspiration Ministries will share best practices in addressing the reentry housing dilemma. Their models address barriers, national standards and funding strategies that have provided significant impact upon recidivism rates through sustainable approaches. Andrew is President/Founder of Inspiration Ministries focused on reducing substance use, recidivism and poverty. Don and Michelle Harvey have been with Inspiration Ministries for 13 years and currently lead the men's and women's reentry program.

Fundraising: How to Tell Your Story

Allis Gilbert | This workshop provides practical concepts, tactics, and insights on how to share your ministry story by creating a compelling marketing campaign appeal and social media plan. Attendees will increase their confidence in sharing their story by blending the power of storytelling with strategic fundraising insights. Allis is the Vice President of Advancement, Crossroads Prison Ministries. Over the past seventeen years, Allis has spent her post-military career in the nonprofit sector. Allis believes in mission-driven work and has a passion for service.

Finding the Good Life: A Bible-based Curriculum for Behavior Change

Matt Moore & James Stogner | Core Civic has developed a 12 session Bible based, strength based, evidence based, open cycle curriculum for use in jail and prison settings. We will show findings and principles from the development of this program to assist you with use of faith-based curriculum and incorporate strength based positive psychology principles. Matt Moore oversees Chaplaincy as part of his role as Senior Director, Reentry Services at CoreCivic and has over 34 years of experience in corrections. James Stogner is Director, Chaplaincy and Volunteer Services at CoreCivic. He has been a vocational chaplain for 24 years.

Safe Discipleship in a Pro-Criminal Culture of Incarceration

Carey Sturgeon | How do we know if justice-involved individuals genuinely seek discipleship? Some are Christ-followers and others act on criminal values to seek personal gain through program participation. We examine principles for safe discipleship relationships. Dr. Sturgeon is a consultant forensic, clinical psychologist and supervised a chaplaincy program.

Making Disciples and Mobilizing Missionaries Within the Prison

Matthew Thomas | There is a great opportunity to intentionally disciple Christians behind bars who can be leaders in their own context. We can encourage them toward spiritual maturity and gospel mission through reproducible models and values. Matt is a released citizen and founder of Firm Foundation Ministries, providing Christian reentry housing and discipling leaders who are justice-involved to lead the church inside.

Addiction: A Biblical Cognitive Approach to Understanding and Addressing Dependency

Robert Vann | Drug and alcohol addiction are false solutions to legitimate problems. We will explore what the Bible teaches regarding the use of alcohol/drugs and relapse prevention. Bob is the Executive Director and Co-Founder of "A Strictly Biblical Perspective Ministries" (ASBPM) and has over 30 years of experience in ministry as Addiction Counselor, Case Manager and Program Director.

Workshop Session 2 Friday May 2 3:30-5:00pm

Sharing God's Love and Mercy Through Personal Stories

Lee Bailey-Seiler | The Story Mission model demonstrates how you can make an impact through the development and use of personal stories. The model can be used to understand identity, grow relationships, serve others and recognize God's work in the world. You'll learn practical techniques that can be used by justice impacted people and the organizations that serve them. Lee Bailey-Seiler is a survivor of addiction and vice-president of operations, and chief curriculum developer for Five Stone Media, a ministry with a mission to use STORY to bring HOPE and HEALING to people in need of change.

Relational Discipleship: Inside and Out

Curt Campbell | A look at effective ways to build relationships and maximize opportunities for long-term success both pre- and post-release based on I Thessalonians 2:8, "Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God, but our lives as well." Curt Campbell is the Program Director with Men of Valor, a faith-based prison and reentry program.

Emotional Regulation through Prayer

Stacey Campbell | This workshop will demonstrate how to assist justice-involved people to build core strategies for emotional regulation when experiencing a confusing or distressing situation. Inviting the Holy Spirit to partner with us in the process, we will explore sensations, emotions, needs and threats to moving forward. Rev. Stacey Palmer Campbell is President/CEO of Prison Fellowship Canada.

Navigating with others through Crisis with Effective Strategies of Care

Ilinda Jackson | This workshop will provide effective strategies of care when journeying with those experiencing crisis and non-crisis life challenges. Ilinda Jackson is a Regional Chaplain with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections, Pastor of The Secret Place Community Church and founder of Raising the Standard Ministries, Inc.

Education and Certification for Chaplains

James Kirkland | Chaplaincy is coming under secular influences that lead away from Biblical roots. Discussion on the need and methods for maintaining a Biblical worldview in a pluralistic environment, and education and board certification benefits and opportunities. James Kirkland is the ED of Christian Chaplains and Coaches, a Board-Certified Chaplain, and CPE Supervisor Educator.

Trauma, Addiction, Recovery, and the Bible

Erika Mariglia, Rick Eschenburg, Sallie Nyenhuis and panel | This workshop shares outcomes from our Trauma & Addiction Taskforce at Reach the Forgotten Jail Ministry (RTF). We recognize trauma healing as paramount to the journey of holistic recovery and seek to address recovery from a Biblical and evidenced based perspective. RTF staff (Erika, Rick, Sallie) will present, joined by Heather Bunting, MD - Addiction Medicine Specialist, Patrick Nelson, MA, LLPC, MAML, CPS - Trauma Counselor and Rev. Aaron Lewis – Pastor.

The Call: Volunteer or Chaplain - Discerning Your Fit

Jon Nienhuis | Many correctional ministries that reach behind bars involve volunteers and/or chaplains. We will help you craft a vision for your ministry as well as examine the differences in these roles. If you would like to explore vocational chaplaincy - we can help with that! Jon Nienhuis is Lead Recruiter with Good News Global (GNG) and former Lead Chaplain in Brevard County Detention Center, after serving five years as a volunteer in Wisconsin.

Community Partnerships: Getting the Church Involved in Your Ministry

Audrey Santos-Fay | Many ministries struggle to have the local church partner effectively in their mission. We will discuss how to engage your community in a holistic manner which can empower your ministry and equip the church for a powerful partnership for God's Kingdom. Audrey is the Director, Angel Tree Christmas Fulfillment, Prison Fellowship.

Trauma Healing for Men with a Sex Offense

Jeff Schafer & Kalen Salmon | This workshop will be about understanding the trauma and stigma experienced by men with a sex offense. We will present programs that help them find their identity through Christ, housing, employment, fellowship, and healing. Kalen Salmon is the founder of Identity Ministries, which provides reentry resources for men. Jeff Shafer is co-founder of CommonGood Capitol.

Workshop Session 3 Saturday May 3 9:00-10:30am

Discipleship: Assessment and Strategies

Angie Bauman | This workshop describes how to assess the impact of discipleship programs and provides discipleship strategies for in prison and after release. Dr. Angie Bauman is Chief Operating Officer, Discipleship & Accountability at Courage For Life, which creates and distributes free print and digital emotional health and Bible study resources for incarcerated individuals at no cost to participants.

Chaplains: Caring for Self and Others, Part I

Jim Browning | Caring for others invariably can be costly for the caregiver. Chaplains are vulnerable to exhaustion in their role of providing for the needs of others. Using three objects, this presentation offers three essential points that can help chaplains survive and sustain ministry long term. Jim Browning, a retired USAF active-duty chaplain, is the Director of the Marsh Institute for Chaplains. He is also the co-editor of "The Heart of a Chaplain, Exploring Essentials for Ministry, Second Edition."

Lasting Change: A Transformational Personal Development Model

Jason & Joya Calloway | This workshop will explain the ASAP (Acceptance, Study/Supplication, Application, Progression) Model, a faith-based model for transformational personal development. Rooted in reentry and recovery, this workshop offers actionable steps for lasting change, equipping participants to rebuild, grow and thrive. Jason is a Co-Founder and Director of I'm in Transition Ministries, a residential reentry and recovery program in Ohio. Joya Calloway is a transformational coach.

Restorative Justice: Conversations and Practice

Stacey Campbell | This workshop will provide you with a Biblically-based conversational map to engage justice-involved people in a series of restorative conversations using nine waypoints toward active responsibility, changed behavior and reconciliation. This proven method is non-judgmental and productive toward greater awareness and reducing shame which enables more authentic conversation and action. Rev. Stacey Palmer Campbell is President/CEO of Prison Fellowship Canada.

Messy Mistakes Chaplains and Volunteers Make: How to Prevent and How to Respond to Them

Vance Drum | Good intentions often lead to blind spots which can plague or eliminate opportunities for ministry. We will discuss the problems and pitfalls most commonly made - how to prevent them or clean them up if they happen. Vance Drum, D.Min., served as a chaplain in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for 32 years, retiring as the Director of Chaplains. He currently works with Prison Seminaries Foundation.

Standing in the Gap: Journeying with Families of the Incarcerated

Vanessa Gardner | This workshop provides practical insights and strategies when providing support for families as they process and navigate having a loved one incarcerated. Topics include how to start a support group for families of the incarcerated; coping with shame; and caring for yourself, your family and your incarcerated loved one. Vanessa Gardner serves as a Certified Volunteer Chaplain Assistant in Texas and as a reentry consultant.

Breaking In: Starting a Prison Ministry

Mark Inch, Greg Farah | Major General (Ret) Mark S. Inch, recently retired Secretary of Corrections for the State of Florida, will lead a panel of individuals working in corrections. The workshop will provide insight into the corrections system, and reveal the best practices for prison ministries to achieve successful results. Pastor Greg Farah from Church of Eleven 22 leads the church's prison ministry program. Paul Kish, Warden, Marion Correctional Institution, Florida Department of Corrections, will also provide insight in the workshop.

Effective Reentry Ministry for the Ordinary Congregation

Fred Nelson | Churches want to help. But most don't know where to begin. We will discuss 8 possible proven pathways to help a church engage in reentry based upon their strengths and resources. Fred is the author of the Spiritual Survival Guide for Prison and Beyond and founder and executive director of the Inside Out Network, a nonprofit known for its innovative online reentry platform that's active in AZ, OR, IL, and MS.

Motivational Interviewing Basics

Karen Swanson | Motivational Interviewing is an evidence-based practice that fosters change by helping a person explore and resolve ambivalence. Rather than trying to "fix" a person's behavior, MI looks for ways to access internal motivation for change through conversations that are empathetic and respectful. Participants will be able to name and demonstrate the basics of MI. Karen is Director of the Correctional Ministries Institute at the Wheaton College Billy Graham Center and oversees the Charles W. Colson Scholarship Program. She has served in higher education for more than 25 years and has developed training curriculum. Karen is an author, conference workshop speaker and co-founder of CMCA.

Workshop Session 4 Saturday May 18 10:45am-12:15pm

After Trauma Healing: How to Sustain Resilience in Trials

Don Allsman & Charles Anderson | Trauma Healing programs are successfully moving the incarcerated toward wholeness and resilience. This workshop presents the needed tools to sustain resilience when facing trials. Don Allsman is CEO of Completion Global, a networking ministry seeking to accelerate Great Commission innovation. Pastor Charles Anderson is Founder/CEO of Epiphany Life Change.

Chaplains: Caring for Self and Others, Part II

Jim Browning | Chaplaincy involves a never-ending engagement with hurting people. Prioritizing and stamina are required to sustain a long ministry as a chaplain. Jim developed 22 recommendations to help chaplains create a personal strategy for Caring for Others. Jim Browning, a retired USAF active-duty chaplain, is the Director of the Marsh Institute for Chaplains. The Marsh Institute collaborates, equips, supports, and advocates for chaplains in diverse settings.

Ministering to Those with a History of Sexual Sin

Chandler Fozard | Hope Prison Ministries primarily serves registered sex offenders in prison, through aftercare with its 15 transitional houses, and at More Than Redemption Church. Chandler will share his insights from 16 years in ministry to this population. Chandler became a Christian while incarcerated. Today, by the grace of God, he is a husband, father, grandfather, author, pastor, teacher and mentor to many.

Open Arms: Welcoming People Released from Jail into Your Church

Sarah Heaton | Open Arms is a workshop designed to equip and empower the local church to welcome individuals released from jails into their congregation. Topics include trauma, addiction, setting boundaries, best practices, breaking stigma, and jail reentry needs. Sarah Heaton is the Lead Chaplain of Reach the Forgotten Jail Ministry with 15 years of experience.

Criminal Thinking Errors: A Biblical Response

Paul Nielsen & Alicia Reeves | The renewing of your mind is a foundation of discipleship. Identifying and strategically addressing criminal thinking errors from a Biblical worldview can have incredible impact upon your counseling, teaching and preaching ministry. Paul Nielsen is a chaplain at the Colorado Territorial Correctional Facility, an author, and teaching assistant at Denver Seminary. Alicia Reeves is a chaplain with Good News Global.

Overcoming 28 Pitfalls of a Man

Rodney & Tolliny Rankins | This interactive workshop will bring awareness and responsibility through accountability as real-life issues are addressed in a simple, practical and honest way. Presenters share from personal experience on recognizing, overcoming and avoiding pitfalls. Rodney & Tolliny are authors and Co-founders of Redemption 100, a non-profit organization committed to prison reform by assisting in successful reentry of incarcerated men preparing for their release to navigate back into society.

Rewriting Stories: Transforming Lives of Justice-Involved Youth

Kevin Resnover | This workshop is designed for anyone passionate about making a difference in the lives of youth in the juvenile and prison systems. Together, we'll explore why incarcerated youth should be a top priority, discuss the ripple effects of early intervention, and learn practical ways to help youth rewrite their stories. By the end of the workshop, you'll leave with tools and inspiration to make a lasting impact, no matter your background or role. Kevin founded and served as Executive Director of Mentoring with a Mission, Inc. and is an ordained minister. Kevin has served as the International Youth Program Coordinator for Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc. for nearly 20 years.

Spiritual Care Assessment in Chaplaincy: An Evidenced-Based Practice

Paul Ritter | Correctional institutions are relying more and more upon evidenced based practices in their program models. Correctional Chaplaincy can be supported by evidenced based principles - validating the need for and value of spiritual ministry. We will discuss spiritual assessment as part of spiritual care. Paul Ritter is a Correctional Chaplain with GraceInside, serving in Virginia state prisons. He is a former Basic EMT in Vermont, where he learned patient assessment, and later applied those same ideas to spiritual care.