

PRISON EVANGELISM

Prison Evangelism: committed to “changing hearts, transforming lives”

HOUSTON—Everyone pays for crime in America—the victims, the perpetrators who are caught and imprisoned, their families, and the rest of society whose taxes help pay for incarceration and other social costs.

Prison Evangelism, Inc. (www.prisonsevangalism.com) was founded to make a difference by touching the hearts and transforming the lives of those behind bars.

Helping them find the power and purpose needed to start a new life through a relationship with Jesus Christ will restore them to their families and reduce the prison population, as around two-thirds of inmates return at some stage.



Many of those who are incarcerated recognize that they need to make changes in their life—one in three is open to receiving spiritual literature or attending faith-based programs. They also have time to study and reflect.

Prison Evangelism’s *How to Be a Child of God* is a 52-page, full-color graphic guidebook presentation of the gospel, designed to explain the good news of Jesus in simple, straightforward language. Research has found that one in 10 prisoners who reads the book prays to receive Christ as his or her savior and seeks to turn their life around.

Written at a sixth-grade reading level, with striking illustrations, *How to Be a Child of God* was first published by David Howell in 2010. Since then more than 110,000 copies—25,000 of them in Spanish—have been distributed to jails and prisons across the United States, and even overseas. It has been translated into a dozen languages, with a 21-minute online video version available at www.howtobeachildofgod.com.

Hundreds of prisoners have written to tell how their lives have been transformed as a result. “It changed me from myself to someone new,” said an inmate in Houston, Texas. “Thank God for this book, it made a difference in my life.”

Prison chaplains have welcomed the resource too. George Hanson put copies out for chapel services at the Price Daniel Unit in Snyder, Texas, “and they flew out of the door,” he said. “They were very well received... thank you for caring for those that so many have forgotten.”

Given that it costs just 54 cents to produce and mail a copy of *How to Be a Child of God* and an average \$35,000 a year to incarcerate a returning offender, Prison Evangelism sees a 7,000-to-1 return on investment for every prisoner who responds to the book’s message.

The ongoing impact could be even greater, as these born-again men and women in turn impact their families,

friends, and wider communities by witnessing to the life-changing power of Jesus Christ.

An interdenominational ministry, Prison Evangelism has also produced two follow-up books in similar style to *How to Be a Child of God: Seeking God Through Prayer & Meditation* and *Fully Alive and Finally Free*. All three are available for free download at the ministry's website, www.howtobeahchildofgod.com, which has drawn more than 400,000 visitors.

###

Prison Evangelism (www.prisonsevangalism.com) is a faith-based nonprofit committed to transforming and rehabilitating offenders through the distribution of "How to Be a Child of God" and other evangelistic and discipleship materials designed to help prisoners find new purpose and power in life through a relationship with Jesus Christ.

To schedule an interview with David Howell, contact:

Darin Campbell, InChrist Communications - (512) 785-8350 - dcampbell@inchristcommunications.com