

Praying for Ex-Prisoners

The challenge of successful, crime-free reentry is enormous. Lack of a place to live and the temptation of old friends are immediate issues that newly-released prisoners face. Praying Christians help provide an important and necessary supportive route back into the community.

Every reentry ministry needs prayer warriors behind the scenes lifting up the needs of ex-prisoners and their families. Your prayers can open doors to a better life and close doors that lead back to the old life. Through prayer, you can push back the powers of darkness that hold people captive and release the power of God to set men and women free.

Prayer ministry can be done anywhere – in your living room, in a Sunday School classroom, at the gym, on a neighborhood prayer walk, sitting on a park bench, on your phone, or via the Internet. Simply get together with a few other Christian friends and begin calling upon the Lord to strengthen and guide ex-prisoners as they struggle to rebuild their lives.

God works through the prayers of His people. So if your church is involved in outreach to ex-prisoners, ask the workers to send you their prayer requests and progress reports. Contact your local Prison Fellowship staff at 800-251-7411 to learn more about reentry needs in your community and to connect with others involved in reentry ministry.

Even when you don't know specific needs to pray for, you can call on God's power and provision for a variety of general needs. Be sure to download the prayer list mentioned in our online article. Then share it with others in your church or with anyone who feels called to intercessory prayer.