



## Recommended Reading

Below are books and articles about Restorative Justice, relationships with inmates, and criminal justice. These are suggested to help your understanding and improve your effectiveness in ministry.

### Restorative Justice

- *The Little Book of Restorative Justice*. By Howard Zehr. Howard Zehr is a pioneer in transforming our understanding of justice. In this book, he answers the questions of “how should we as a society respond to wrongdoing? When a crime occurs or an injustice is done, what needs to happen? What does justice require?”
- *Changing Lenses: A New Focus for Crime and Justice*. By Howard Zehr. Crime victims have many needs, most of which our criminal justice system ignores. In fact, the justice system often increases the injury. Offenders are less ignored by this system, but their real needs—for accountability, for closure, for healing—are also left unaddressed. Such failures are inherent in the very definitions and assumptions which govern our thinking about crime and justice. Howard Zehr proposes a restorative model which is more consistent with experience, with the past, and with the biblical tradition. Based on the needs of victims and offenders, he takes into account recent studies and biblical principles.

### Ministering to Inmates

- *Helping Hands*. By Daniel J. Bayse. A quick read, this book gives insight into how to be a better volunteer in ways that would not occur to the average volunteer. The insight into offender resistance and manipulation is important information.
- *Games Criminals Play*. By Bud Allen and Diana Bosta. This book includes all the “tricks” that inmates and criminals use to “get one over on you” Since these people have nothing to do all day but dream up new crimes and manipulation techniques, the knowledge this book will impart will allow one to “see them coming a mile away”. Reading this book will enhance ones safety both in the corrections environment and on the street.
- *The Lucifer Effect, Understanding how good people turn evil*. By Philip Zimbardo. Philip Zimbardo explains how – and why- we are all susceptible to the lure of “the dark side”. Zimbardo, the creator of The Stanford Prison Experiment, details how situational forces and group dynamics can work in concert to make monsters out of decent men and women.

### Re-Entry

- *But They All Come Back, Facing the challenges of prisoner re-entry*. By Jeremy Travis. This book moves the debate about returning prisoners into the larger arena where policy is made and the live of tens of thousands of former prisoners and their families area touched.



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- *The Unseen Presence*. By Mel Goebel. Mel Goebel encountered a life-giving power he didn't know existed. By responding to the power of this encounter, Mel gave up his old life to gain freedom into a new life he never would have imagined.

### The Death Penalty

- *Assessing the Impact of the Ultimate Penal Sanction on Homicide Survivors: A Two State Comparison*. By Marilyn Peterson Armour and Mark S. Umbreit. This study presents ground breaking research on the effects of the death penalty on victim-survivors. The authors used in-person interviews with a randomly selected sample of survivors from four time periods extending from 1 year to 15 years after sentencing to examine the totality of the ultimate penal sanction process and its impact on their lives. The study assessed the differential effect of two types of sanctions by comparing survivors' experiences in Texas, a death penalty state, and Minnesota, a life without the possibility of parole (LWOP) state. (Marquette Law Review Volume 96 Issue 1 Fall 2012)