# Fellowship in Prison Ministry: Sharing Christ Behind Bars



Explore how Christ-centered fellowship transforms lives in prison, offering hope, unity, and salvation through shared faith behind bars.





#### Table of contents

<u>Introduction</u>	3
<u>Day 1: The Heart of Christian Fellowship</u>	5
Day 2: Trayer and Worship Behind Bars	11
Day 3: Restoration Through Christ's Love	17
Day 4: Serving One Another in Love	23
Day 5: XX Witnessing Together in Prison	29







#### Introduction

**Fellowship** in the context of prison ministry is a unique and powerful expression of Christian love and community. Inside prison walls, where physical freedom is limited, spiritual freedom in Christ can flourish and transform lives. This study plan invites you to explore God's design for fellowship and how it becomes a beacon of hope behind bars. *Prison ministry* not only offers companionship but builds a family grounded in faith, encouraging growth, repentance, and restoration.

In a setting that can be harsh and isolating, the fellowship of believers brings light into darkness. The fellowship described in the New Testament is about deep connection, mutual encouragement, accountability, and shared mission. Whether it is through Bible studies, prayer groups, or one-on-one mentoring, the Body of Christ behind bars becomes a testimony of grace and redemption.

Through this plan, you will examine key Scripture passages that reveal the essence of fellowship and its transformative power. You will reflect on how God calls us into community for support and spiritual nourishment, especially among those who are imprisoned. By focusing on the practical ways we can share Christ's love, you will be equipped to foster authentic relationships and minister effectively in prison contexts.

As you engage with this study, be open to the Spirit's leading, understanding that **fellowship is not just socializing**, but a vital, life-giving connection







rooted in Christ. May this journey encourage you to embrace the calling of prison ministry with compassion, humility, and boldness, sharing the hope of the Gospel with those who need it most.















#### Your Verse

Acts 2:42 – "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Hebrews 10:24–25 "Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together..."
- 1 John 1:7 "...if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another."







#### Devotional: The Devoted Heart of Fellowship

Christian fellowship is more than just gathering — it is a committed devotion to walking with one another in faith. Acts 2:42 shows us how the early believers centered their community on teaching, prayer, and breaking bread together. In prison ministry, this example carries immense power. Behind bars, people often feel isolated and forgotten, but fellowship breaks down those walls by forming bonds rooted in Christ.

Fellowship invites us into deep, spiritual connection that encourages growth and accountability. Hebrews reminds us that meeting together isn't optional but necessary to spur one another toward love and good works. For incarcerated brothers and sisters, this encouragement can ignite fresh hope and strength to persevere.

Walking in the light, as 1 John says, involves honesty and vulnerability within the community. When inmates experience transparent fellowship, they find freedom despite their circumstances — a freedom that comes from Christ.

As you consider the heart of fellowship today, ask yourself how you can reflect and promote a genuine, Christ-centered connection even in difficult or restricted environments.







## Reflect and Apply

	How does the example of the early church challenge the way we approach fellowship in prison ministry?
	In what ways can prayer and teaching strengthen bonds among believers behind bars?
	Why is regular gathering vital for sustaining spiritual growth in difficult situations?







## **Journaling Prompts**

1.	List the elements of fellowship that you find most impactful for prison ministry and why.
2.	Write about a time when fellowship encouraged or challenged you in your faith.
	Reflect on practical steps you can take to foster consistent fellowship in a prison setting.







#### Prayer for Today

Lord, thank You for the gift of authentic fellowship in every circumstance.

Help us to be devoted like the early church—to teaching, prayer, and community—so that even behind bars, Your light may shine through us. Empower us to build relationships rooted in Your love that encourage, convict, and restore. May those we minister to feel Your presence through our connection and know that they are never alone. Give us wisdom and boldness to keep meeting, sharing, and growing together in Christ. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*







# Day 2: 1 Prayer and Worship Behind Bars









Day 2: 🛐 Prayer and Worship Behind Bars

#### Your Verse

Matthew 18:20 - "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Philippians 4:6 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."
- Psalm 147:3 "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."







Day 2: Trayer and Worship Behind Bars

#### Devotional: Prayer and Worship: Freedom in Christ

**Prayer and worship create a sacred space that transcends physical confinement.** Matthew 18:20 assures us that Christ's presence is guaranteed when even a few gather in His name. In prison ministry, where freedom is restricted, prayer groups and worship sessions become lifelines for spiritual freedom and healing.

Through collective prayer, inmates can express their fears, hopes, and repentance before a God who listens and heals. Philippians encourages us not to be anxious but to bring every concern to God with thanksgiving, a powerful way to replace despair with hope. Psalm 147 reminds us that God mends broken hearts and binds wounds, a promise vital to those who carry deep pain behind bars.

Prayer and worship do more than comfort; they build a fellowship grounded in the presence and power of Jesus. Together, believers experience transformation and encouragement to walk a new path. As you reflect on prayer and worship today, consider how these practices can shape and sustain your ministry in prisons.







Day 2: 🛐 Prayer and Worship Behind Bars

## Reflect and Apply

1.	How does knowing Jesus is present change your perspective on worship in prison?
2.	In what ways can prayer groups foster healing and restoration among inmates?
	How can thanksgiving be practiced consistently in an environment of hardship?







Day 2: 🛐 Prayer and Worship Behind Bars

## **Journaling Prompts**

	Describe a powerful experience of worship or prayer in a challenging circumstance.
2.	Write down prayers you want to lift on behalf of those behind bars.
3.	Plan a simple worship activity that could be done in a prison setting.







Day 2: Trayer and Worship Behind Bars

#### Prayer for Today

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your promise to be present when we gather.

Teach us to worship You heartfully even in confined spaces, and let Your peace replace anxiety in every situation. Heal the brokenhearted and bind up wounds of those in prison ministries. Strengthen our prayers and deepen our faith, so that through worship and prayer, lives may be transformed and Your name glorified. Help us bring hope through every word lifted to You. *Amen.* 









# Day 3: Bestoration Through Christ's Love









Day 3: B Restoration Through Christ's Love

#### Your Verse

2 Corinthians 5:17 – "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Isaiah 61:1 "...to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives..."
- Galatians 6:2 "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."







Day 3: Bestoration Through Christ's Love

#### Devotional: Christ's Love Restores New Life

Fellowship in prison ministry is about restoration—showing and living out the new life found in Christ. Paul declares in 2 Corinthians that anyone in Christ becomes a new creation, leaving the past behind. This message offers hope not only to those physically confined but spiritually trapped by guilt, shame, and sin.

Isaiah's prophecy highlights God's mission to heal the brokenhearted and proclaim freedom to captives, a mission fulfilled fully in Jesus. Prison ministry carries this mission forward, extending God's hands of restoration to those society often rejects.

Galatians reminds us that love requires us to bear one another's burdens, a call especially relevant in prison fellowship where empathy and mutual support reign. Through genuine relationships, inmates discover grace and encouragement to transform their lives, demonstrating to each other and the world the power of Christ's love.

Reflect today on how restoration can impact both those ministered to and those ministering behind bars, fostering a community of believers marked by grace and new beginnings.







Day 3: B Restoration Through Christ's Love

## Reflect and Apply

1.	What does it mean to be a 'new creation' in the context of prison ministry?
2.	How can bearing one another's burdens practically restore hope in a prison environment?
3.	In what ways does understanding God's mission to heal influence your approach to fellowship?







Day 3: B Restoration Through Christ's Love

### **Journaling Prompts**

Write about how you have experienced God's restoration or seen it in others.
List challenges and opportunities you see in promoting restoration in prison ministry.
Consider steps to deepen empathy and support within your fellowship community.







Day 3: Bestoration Through Christ's Love

#### Prayer for Today

Lord Jesus, thank You for making us new creations through Your sacrifice.

Help us bring restoration and freedom to those held captive by their pasts.

Teach us to carry burdens with love and to be agents of healing in prison

ministries. May Your grace flow through each fellowship, renewing hearts

ministries. May Your grace flow through each fellowship, renewing hearts and building communities that reflect Your transforming power. Use us to proclaim hope and freedom in Your name. *In Your precious name, Amen.* 









## Day 4: 🌕 Serving One Another in Love









Day 4: <equation-block> Serving One Another in Love

#### Your Verse

Galatians 5:13 - "Serve one another humbly in love."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- John 13:14 "Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet."
- Romans 12:10 "Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."







Day 4: O Serving One Another in Love

# Devotional: Humble Service Builds Genuine Fellowship

True fellowship is expressed through humble service and mutual honor.

Galatians 5:13 reminds us that serving one another is not a burden but a privilege done out of love. In prison ministry, serving converts to practical acts of care — sharing meals, listening, teaching, and offering encouragement.

Jesus gave the ultimate example by washing His disciples' feet, demonstrating servant leadership and humility. This servant heart is vital behind bars, where power dynamics and pride often clash, but love-driven service breaks through barriers and fosters unity.

Romans exhorts believers to honor one another above themselves, cultivating a culture of respect that reflects Christ's love. Serving in prison ministry shifts perspectives—from seeing inmates as merely prisoners to recognizing them as beloved children of God, worthy of dignity and care.

Today, meditate on how your service can embody Christ's love and strengthen bonds within the prison fellowship.







Day 4: 💭 Serving One Another in Love

## Reflect and Apply

1.	How does humble service reflect the heart of Christ in prison ministry?
2.	What practical ways can you serve others in a restricted environment?
3.	How does honoring others enhance the strength of Christian fellowship?







Day 4: 💭 Serving One Another in Love

### **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Reflect on a time when serving others enriched your relationships.
2.	List barriers to serving humbly in prison ministry and how to overcome them.
3.	Write down ideas for small acts of service that can make a big impact.







Day 4: <equation-block> Serving One Another in Love

#### Prayer for Today

Father, teach us to serve one another with humility and love. Let our actions behind bars reflect Jesus' servant heart, breaking down walls and building community. Help us honor each person as You do, seeing their value and potential in Christ. Equip us to serve joyfully and selflessly, pointing others to Your grace through our deeds. May our fellowship be marked by love expressed in service. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*















#### Your Verse

Matthew 28:19-20 - "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Acts 4:33 "With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus."
- Colossians 4:5-6 "Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity..."







#### Devotional: United in Bold Witnessing

Fellowship in prison ministry culminates in the shared mission of witnessing to Christ's truth and love. Jesus' Great Commission challenges believers to make disciples of all nations, and prison fellowships become vital centers for this mission behind bars.

The early church witnessed with boldness and power, united in proclaiming the resurrection and the hope found in Jesus. Such courage can inspire prison ministries to break through fear and societal stigma to share the Gospel effectively.

Paul's counsel to the Colossians encourages wisdom and grace in our interactions, showing love not only through words but through actions. Fellowship equips inmates and ministers alike to witness together, demonstrating the transformation Christ brings and offering an inviting community to new believers.

Reflect today on your role in this collective witness, and how you can nurture a fellowship that boldly shares the hope of salvation.







## Reflect and Apply

1.	How does fellowship strengthen the courage to witness Christ in prison?
	In what ways can inmates become disciple-makers despite their circumstances?
	What practical steps can a prison ministry take to be a light to others inside and outside?







## **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about a witness experience that impacted you greatly.
	Plan a strategy for encouraging inmates to share their faith respectfully and wisely.
	Reflect on how your fellowship community can grow in boldness and love.







#### Prayer for Today

Lord Jesus, empower us to witness boldly and wisely together. May every fellowship in prison be a shining light, proclaiming Your resurrection and grace. Help us make the most of every opportunity to share Your love with those around us. Strengthen our unity and courage, and let our lives exemplify the hope we have in You. Use us to draw many to Your saving truth. *In Your mighty name, Amen.* 💸 🙏 💝







#### Where God's Word Meets Your Daily Life



We pray this Bible Study has blessed you and drawn you closer to the heart of God. If you enjoyed this study, we'd love for you to join our growing HolyJot community online.



- 100k+ Bible Study Plans on every topic of life
- Access studies anytime on your phone, tablet, or computer
- Studies for individuals, families, small groups, and churches
- Secure online journaling or keep using print for privacy
- A place to grow your faith alongside believers worldwide

#### **Bonus for You:**

Download exclusive study bundles and resources when you create a <u>free HolyJot account</u>. No spam. No gimmicks. Just God's Word.

#### Visit Now:

- \* www.HolyJot.com
- Scan this QR code to start your next Bible Study today:

We'd love to hear your story. Email us at <a href="mailto:info@holyjot.com">info@holyjot.com</a>.



Connect with us at:

Facebook • Instagram • YouTube • TikTok

You are welcome to share this PDF with others.

C 2025 HolyJot LLC. All Rights Reserved.