



# Planted for His SPLENDOR

FY25 Annual Report

PICTURED ON COVER: Carlos, a former prisoner at Bellavista Prison in Medellín, Colombia, encountered the Gospel and was transformed. He began carving wood in prison—turning rough, ugly pieces that symbolized his past into hands lifted in worship, testifying to Jesus Christ's redeeming power in his life.

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me,  
because the Lord has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to **proclaim freedom for the captives**  
and **release from darkness for the prisoners,**

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor  
and the day of vengeance of our God,

to comfort all who mourn,  
and provide for those who grieve in Zion—

to bestow on them a crown of beauty  
instead of ashes,

the oil of joy  
instead of mourning,

and a garment of praise  
instead of a spirit of despair.

They will be called **oaks of righteousness,**  
a planting of the Lord  
for the display of his splendor.

*Isaiah 61:1-3 NIV*

# RINGS OF RENEWAL

A message from Prison Fellowship International's President and CEO

There's a striking image in Isaiah 61. It is the promised outcome of Jesus' proclamation in the Nazarene synagogue, as he launched His forever Kingdom reign. The result of His anointing and the Good News He announced is this:

*"They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of His splendor."*

This verse speaks not only to the transformative power of the Gospel, but to the steady, faithful, often unseen work that makes transformation possible. It reminds us that we are tending to what God Himself has planted. And when lives grow strong like oaks, all the glory belongs to Jesus alone.

In any ministry, including ours, it's easy to measure success by what's visible: the number of programs delivered, Bibles distributed or prisoners reached. And those numbers do matter—there is a connection between what is planted and what grows from it. But lasting transformation often begins in hidden places, like the invisible rings inside a growing tree. What God is doing through Prison Fellowship International and our global network of ministry partners runs deeper than metrics can capture.

This year's theme, **Planted for His Splendor**, reflects the heart of what it means to follow Jesus into prisons around the world. From Liberia to Lebanon, from the Czech Republic to Colombia, we are seeing prisons known for violence and despair become places of restoration and peace thanks to the faithful, tireless work of our thousands of volunteers and staff.

But even as we celebrate signs of transformation, **we know the work is not yet done.**

I recently asked a few gardener friends when the best time to plant a tree is. Their answer? *"The best time was last year. The second-best time is now."* The oaks of righteousness in Isaiah 61 didn't become strong overnight. Their growth rings accumulated year after year, unseen but undeniable. Some years yield wide rings while others are narrow, yet all are proof of growth.

The same is true of Prison Fellowship International. The lives changed today will become strong branches in a forest of transformation we may never fully witness, but God has promised that they will become a planting for *His* splendor. We are all being transformed into His likeness as we live with grace, faith and obedience.

Thank you for standing with us as co-laborers in the forest that God is growing. Thank you for praying, giving and walking alongside us as we follow Christ into the prisons of the world—and **find Him already there.**

This year's report tells only part of that story. I pray it encourages you as it has encouraged me. Much has been accomplished. And much more lies ahead.



Andrew D. Corley  
President and Chief Executive Officer

## Leading Prisoners to Freedom



Andy joined "The Profile," a podcast produced by the UK's leading Christian magazine, Premier Christianity. In his conversation with host Andy Peck, he shared about God's remarkable work through prison ministry volunteers and reflected on how he stays grounded and joyful in his faith.

Andy meets with children in Colombia who are part of our program for children with an incarcerated parent.





Around the world, God is transforming lives in places most would never expect: behind prison walls, in fractured families, in communities once defined by fear. Through Prison Fellowship International and our network of 123 National Ministries, lives once marked by brokenness are growing in hope, truth and grace. Each year brings new opportunities to nourish our global family to produce steady, spirit-led rings of growth.

This transformation begins when the Gospel is heard and takes hold in someone's heart. In a Zambian prison yard, a man once consumed by violence now leads fellow prisoners in weekly Bible studies. In The Philippines, a child whose parent is incarcerated receives care, educational support and spiritual discipleship. In Brazil, restorative communities are proving that justice and mercy can grow in tandem. Each story, each life changed, marks another ring in a growing forest of redemption—proof that God's Word never returns void.

2 Corinthians 3:18 reminds us that “we all...are being transformed into His image with ever-increasing glory.” Every program, partnership and person in this report reflects that reality. God is shaping lives from the inside out, forming new rings of growth.

Looking back on this year, we see evidence of God's hand and faithfulness in every changed life, every new beginning, every ring of growth. **And in it all, we see His splendor.**

#### MISSION

To transform the lives of prisoners, their families and victims through a global network of ministry partners.

#### VISION

To break the cycle of crime and restore lives, worldwide, through Jesus' love.

# GLOBAL BRANCHES

Our Worldwide Network of Ministry Partners

- **Africa**
- Benin
- Botswana
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Dem. Rep. of Congo
- Eswatini
- Ethiopia
- Gambia
- Ghana
- Guinea Conakry
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mauritius
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Rwanda
- Senegal
- Sierra Leone
- South Africa
- South Sudan
- Tanzania
- Togo
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe
- **Asia Pacific**
- Australia
- Bangladesh
- Bhutan
- Cambodia
- Fiji
- Guam
- India
- Indonesia
- Malaysia
- Mongolia
- Myanmar
- Nepal
- New Zealand
- Pakistan
- Papua New Guinea
- Philippines
- South Korea
- Singapore
- Solomon Islands
- Sri Lanka
- Taiwan
- Thailand
- Vanuatu
- **Europe & Central Asia**
- Albania
- Armenia
- Belarus
- Bulgaria
- Czech Republic
- England
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Kazakhstan
- Kyrgyzstan
- Malta
- Moldova
- Netherlands
- Northern Ireland
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Russia
- Scotland
- Slovakia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Ukraine
- Wales
- **Latin America & Caribbean**
- Antigua and Barbuda
- Argentina
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Bermuda
- Bolivia
- Brazil
- Cayman Islands
- Chile
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Curaçao
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- El Salvador
- Guatemala
- Guyana
- Honduras
- Jamaica
- Mexico
- Panama
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Puerto Rico
- Suriname
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Uruguay
- Venezuela
- Virgin Islands (UK)
- Virgin Islands (USA)
- **Middle East & North Africa**
- Egypt
- Kuwait
- Lebanon
- Sudan
- **North America**
- Canada
- **United States of America\***

## From Background Support to Bold Calling



**Francesco Di Turo** went from quietly assisting prison ministry to coordinating The Prisoner's Journey across all of Italy. Behind-the-scenes support turned into a personal mission, launching a journey now impacting thousands of lives in prison.

## A Dryer, a Priest and a Life-Altering Question



Through acts of kindness and the powerful learnings from Sycamore Tree Project, **Father Marwan** challenged individuals convicted of terrorism in Lebanon to confront their past and find a path toward making amends and peace.

## Four Things I've Learnt From Working With Prisoners



**Daniel Bey**, Asia Pacific Regional Director of Prison Fellowship International, drawing on his years of field experience, shared how working with incarcerated individuals and their families has shaped his views of justice, compassion and grace.

## Mateo's Testimony – Bellavista Prison



Poor choices lead to **Mateo's** incarceration. Now seven years into his sentence, he has used his time in prison to encounter God through The Prisoner's Journey and reflect on his life choices. Today, Mateo stands as a beacon of restoration for his peers, transformed by Christ.

## How Going To Prison For A Crime I Didn't Commit Changed My Life – For The Better



**Wilson Femayi**, Executive Director of Prison Fellowship Zimbabwe, was once incarcerated himself. God used Wilson's sentence to illuminate his calling and today, he is seeing God's power bring purpose out of pain in the lives of prisoners and their families who he works with daily.

\*Prison Fellowship is an independent 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to prison ministry across the United States.

## SPROUTING IN DRY SOIL

The Karamojong Tribe's First  
Encounter With Jesus Christ

Deep in Northern Uganda, the Karamojong people live as a nomadic pastoral tribe, known for their warrior-like nature and frequent cattle raids on neighboring villages. Their way of life remains deeply traditional, resisting outside influence, and most have never heard Jesus' name.

Ashella Ndhlovu, our Africa Regional Director, first learned about the Karamojong people in Jinja Main Prison, a severely overcrowded maximum security facility housing around 2,000 prisoners, including 250 Karamojong men. Only one among them, Lochap Noah, could speak or understand English. **Out of curiosity, he joined The Prisoner's Journey and, for the first time, heard about Christ.** By the end of the course, Lochap Noah's heart had been transformed, and he gave his life to Jesus.

His newfound faith ignited curiosity among his fellow tribesmen, but language was a barrier. Determined to share what he had learned, he trained as a program facilitator and began leading small groups. By the time Ashella visited the prison, he was facilitating The Prisoner's Journey to 50 Karamojong men, with many more on a waiting list.

As Ashella sat among them, she asked if any of them had ever heard of Christ before. The answer was unanimous—no one had. Not in their families. Not in their communities. **They were the very first in their lineage to encounter the Gospel.**

With conviction, they declared that their days of violence were over. Their only desire now was to return home and share Christ with their families.

Thanks to The Prisoner's Journey, first-generation Christians are emerging among the Karamojong. Once spiritually untouched, these men are visible testimonies of God's transforming power—like oaks of righteousness. This year, the first ring in their spiritual legacy was etched. Their transformation is not only evidence of God's glory at work. It is a display of His splendor, growing outward from the heart of one man to the horizon of a whole people.

As the Karamojong men embrace their newfound faith, The Prisoner's Journey's impact continues to ripple through lives and communities. With ongoing efforts to provide access to the Bible in their native language, **the potential for a generation of Karamojong believers to share the Gospel and bring lasting change is becoming a powerful reality.**



FY25 results  
 87K disciples\*  
 113K graduates\*  
 211K invited  
 856 prison sites  
 35 countries

\*program graduates who continue to further discipleship courses



Romania



Papua New Guinea



Paraguay



Zimbabwe

### The Prisoner's Journey

Prisoners are often isolated, scorned, shamed and abandoned in systems that prioritize punishment over restoration. Since 2014, *The Prisoner's Journey*® has introduced prisoners to a restorative relationship with Jesus Christ, with hundreds of thousands finding spiritual freedom, healing and wholeness with Him. Many incarcerated individuals are encountering God for the first time through the program, deepening their spiritual roots and finding identity and new life in Christ despite their conditions.

For seven consecutive weeks, Dimìtris\*, an atheist, participated in **The Prisoner's Journey**, showing great interest in learning about Christ. He was remarkably engaged, asking questions, contributing to discussions and consistently expressing his desire to be part of each session. Week after week, he returned, eager for more.

On graduation day, however, Dimìtris was the only participant absent. When the program facilitator, Ernest, asked the prison staff where he was, they simply said, "*He has been released.*" While the program facilitators rejoiced in his freedom, they also wondered about his journey from here.

Later that very afternoon, Ernest unexpectedly ran into Dimìtris on the street, and his face lit up with joy when he saw him. With excitement, the man shared something that left Ernest in awe. "*I don't have a phone to call you, but before coming to this neighborhood, I prayed to God. I said, 'Lord, if You are real, let me meet the chaplain today—on my graduation day. I don't want the certificate; what I want is to trust my life to You.'*"

\*Name changed for privacy



FY25 results  
 2K volunteers  
 22.7K graduates  
 215 prison sites  
 2K victim participants  
 8 countries



South Africa



Uruguay



Nigeria



Colombia

### Sycamore Tree Project

Crime breaks relationships and trust across communities. *Sycamore Tree Project®: Justice and Peace* uses the story of Zacchaeus, as told in the Book of Luke, to join offenders and victims to discuss restorative principles that increase awareness of how crime causes harm. Many victims report healing while offenders often experience significant attitude changes, making recidivism less likely. Program participants are rebuilding what once was broken, just as severed branches grow back stronger.

In his effort to support his aging parents and pregnant wife, Lorenzo joined a notorious armed robbery gang. It felt like his only option. But when a robbery led to a man's death, he was arrested. That same day, his wife died in labor. Overcome with grief and guilt, Lorenzo was lost.

In prison, he joined **Sycamore Tree Project**, where he encountered Zacchaeus' story and began to see his own life differently. "I hadn't taken responsibility for the man I killed," he admitted. In that space of truth and reflection, Lorenzo prayed, "Dear God, please forgive me. I will be a better person." He asked to meet his victim's family, not to undo the past, but to acknowledge it.

Lorenzo's journey towards restoration isn't finished, but he has taken the first steps toward redemption. Where there was once destruction, something new is beginning to grow.

*\*Name changed for privacy*



FY25 results  
 2K volunteers  
 56.4K graduates  
 5.1K listening groups  
 327 prison sites  
 30 countries



Thailand



Moldova



Puerto Rico



Central African Republic

### The Listener's Way

Illiteracy and lack of translation are some of the most common barriers preventing those in prison from engaging with God's Word. *The Listener's Way*® provides audio and visual Scripture in heart languages, helping participants engage with the Gospel in a new and meaningful way. Participants are encouraged to allow God's Word to take root in their hearts so that their faith is nourished to grow even in their dark situation.

Osinugha\* once lived a life far removed from faith. "I didn't know who Jesus was," he said. But today, his story is one of remarkable transformation from doubt to a heart anchored in faith.

Osinugha life's began to shift when he enrolled in **The Listener's Way**. At first, he was hesitant. Faith was something he mocked in others. Yet, week after week, as his instructors shared God's Word, something began to stir within him. "Through the teachings and encouragement from my instructors," he said, "I've learned how to pray and connect with God." Through the program, he was able to confront the wrongs he had done to his family, community and Creator.

One particularly resonating Scripture passage that Osinugha listened to during the program was the story of Zechariah and Elizabeth. "Despite their old age, God blessed them with a son. This story reminds me of how powerful the God I now believe in truly is." Osinugha is a powerful testament to faith's redemptive power, showing how God's teachings can transform even the most skeptical heart.

\*Name changed for privacy



FY25 results  
 96% safe  
 94% healthy  
 96% educated  
 3,953 children served  
 6 countries



Zambia



Cambodia



Colombia



Togo

### The Child's Journey

When a parent goes to prison and no one intervenes, their child is exponentially more likely to repeat the cycle of crime than their peers. *The Child's Journey*® provides health, educational, social and spiritual care for these children. Each child is paired with a dedicated caseworker to ensure they receive critical support that provides hope and resources for a better future. By coming alongside and investing in children of prisoners, generational cycles of crime are being broken and roots of opportunity are being planted that, in time, allow children to flourish.

Him grew up in a home marked by violence, financial hardship and broken relationships, and his father's incarceration in 2010 only deepened the struggle. Him battled emotional wounds, health issues and a lack of connection with others.

In 2015, Him was enrolled in **The Child's Journey** and received essentials like food, school supplies and medical care, but more importantly, he found hope. With the guidance of his caseworker, he focused on education, earning strong grades and excelling in mathematics and sports. As he and his family began attending church and studying the Bible, he discovered a sense of purpose that had once seemed impossible.

Today, Him is studying law at university with a dream of becoming a lawyer and using his knowledge to serve his family and community. To his sponsor, caseworker and program staff, Him shared his gratitude: *"They helped me to see that I had wonderful potential and now, I can show it to others."*



FY25 results

95% mentored

100% in school

74% received Scripture

4,376 children served

9 countries



Liberia



Nigeria



Zimbabwe



Brazil

### PromisePath

Children of prisoners are more likely than their peers to struggle to access education and face stigma or neglect from their community. *PromisePath*® provides support to children of prisoners and their caregivers by offering education assistance, community mentoring, and spiritual resources and development. Investing in a child's life provides the means necessary to ensure a brighter future for the child and their community. With each act of care, rings of growth are forming as evidence of God's splendor taking root in the lives of the next generation.

Patricia's world shifted in an instant when her husband was incarcerated. She suddenly carried the weight of raising three children on her own. "It was a difficult time for me and the children," Patricia recalled. With no income and her children's schooling uncertain, she faced a season of deep despair.

Then, a lifeline appeared. Through **PromisePath**, Patricia's children were able to begin school with uniforms, tuition and school kits covered—all provided during a community celebration event. The support didn't stop there. Holiday gifts, regular prison visits and words of encouragement reminded Patricia that she and her children were not alone. "The program has contributed to the children's education and provided psychological relief," she said.

Today, with her husband home again, Patricia's family is looking to the future with hope. For them, PromisePath has been a source of strength, dignity and renewal.



## NOURISHING THE NETWORK

Connecting Prison Fellowship International's Global Family

Just as a tree must be watered to sustain healthy growth, the global Prison Fellowship International family thrives when it's refreshed, equipped and connected. Moments of togetherness pour life into our work, serving as moments of nourishment, knowledge exchange, encouragement and a deepening of our shared commitment to serving prisoners and their families.

### Europe, Central Asia, Middle East and North Africa | Cluj, Romania



This forum, themed *Equipping for the Future* and built around 1 Thessalonians 5:11, joined 70 regional leaders from 25 National Ministries across three continents to learn about how they can fit into and remain agile in the world's changing prison and religious landscapes. Participants were also informed and equipped on restorative justice and alternative sentencing initiatives, networking in a connected world and how ministries can support each other even across country borders.

“I returned home after a long journey back to freezing temperatures, but the warmth of this family's hearts keeps me warmer. Conversations and stories have left a lasting impression on me. I carry them with gratitude and in prayer.” – Øivind Klevmo, Prison Fellowship Norway

### Latin America and the Caribbean | Nassau, The Bahamas



Grounded in Isaiah 43:18-19 and themed *New Beginnings, New Opportunities*, this forum strengthened regional unity as 37 representatives from 18 National Ministries joined in worship, connection and collaboration. In addition to hearing from speakers about topics such as strategic government and private sector partnerships, exceptional systems and structures, restorative justice and the APAC method, participants also had the opportunity to tour Fox Hill Prison, the country's sole detention facility.

“Other National Ministries have had a tough time fighting off opposition. Their presentations provided ideas for prisoner after-care, an area seriously lacking in my country, and hope to persevere despite continuing difficulties.” – Maureen Clement, Prison Fellowship Trinidad and Tobago

### Africa | Lusaka, Zambia



Rooted in Isaiah 60:1 and themed *Africa Arise – Own Your Future*, this forum gathered 106 leaders from 29 countries to reflect on the region's foundation and mission while empowering collaboration and how to leave a legacy. Participants heard impact stories from local ministries, learned about capacity building initiatives like leveraging technology and promoting economic independence, and were commissioned to be transformative leaders to shape the continent's future. Mrs. Mutale B. Nalumango, Her Honor the Vice President of the Republic of Zambia, hosted all delegates for a celebration dinner to conclude the forum.

“We appreciated the work, achievements and even the struggles of others, gaining inspiration from testimonies and learning from diverse strategies that have proven effective. These experiences serve as powerful stimuli for adaptation and innovation, helping us refine our approaches and remain impactful in our unique context.” – Paula Libombo, Prison Fellowship Mozambique

### Global Staff Conference | Washington, D.C., United States of America



For the first time since 2019, our global staff conference united our entire team in a time of reflection, celebration and planning. During our time together, our 34 staff members (representing nine countries) looked back on how God has provided for us and looked ahead toward the transformation to come. Staff left refreshed, encouraged and equipped to continue serving our mission faithfully.

“This long-awaited reunion was a chance to reconnect face-to-face, build personal bonds and dive into conversations with a richness and depth Zoom could never quite capture.” – Hugh Greathead, Prison Fellowship International Global Field Director

## CO-LABORERS IN THE FIELD

Our Network of Strategic  
Ministry Partners

No tree stands tall on its own. Its growth depends on the richness of its surroundings. In the same way, Prison Fellowship International's work is strengthened, expanded and sustained by the deep commitment of our strategic partners.

Our partners bring nourishing innovation and long-term vision. Whether supplying Scripture, designing curriculum, conducting research or equipping our National Ministries, our partners help ensure that the Gospel spreads and is understood in prisons around the world.



AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

American Bible Society liaises with and provides financial grants to a country's local Bible society to provide printed Bibles when Prison Fellowship International does not have another language source.

## CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED MINISTRIES

Christianity Explored Ministries provides the curriculum for The Prisoner's Journey and conducts all initial volunteer training for program partners.

## Faith Comes By Hearing®

Faith Comes By Hearing provides the audio and video Bibles necessary to implement The Listener's Way and has expanded their offerings to PromisePath beneficiaries. In FY25, **2,917 devices** were distributed through this partnership.



Bible League International contributes Bibles in seven languages for distribution at The Prisoner's Journey graduation ceremonies. Graduates can use these Bibles when participating in Prison Project Philip, a course adapted from Bible League International. In FY25, **79,610 Bibles** were distributed through this partnership.



Eastern European Mission provides Bibles in Albanian, Czech, Hungarian, Russian, Romanian and Ukrainian to The Prisoner's Journey and PromisePath beneficiaries who need these languages. In FY25, **94,983 Bibles** were distributed through this partnership.



Pepperdine University is partnering with Prison Fellowship International and Prison Fellowship Colombia to implement a multiyear study in Colombia's prison system to measure the efficacy of international prison programming in offender rehabilitation, recidivism reduction and general correctional reform.

For we are **co-workers in God's service;**  
you are God's field, God's building.

*1 Corinthians 3:9*



*Mesa in Cambodia tries on her new school uniform that she received thanks to The Child's Journey.*

# STEWARDSHIP & SUSTAINING

Our FY25 Financial Overview and Position

Like a tree's strength depends on steady care and faithful provision, your generosity this year helped sustain and enrich our global ministry, allowing us to deepen our roots, grow in faith and extend branches of hope to prisoners and their families around the world.

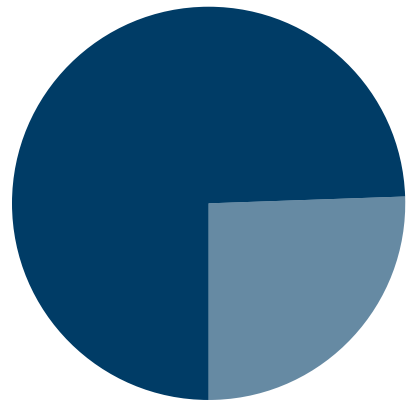
Every gift you gave was planted for the display of His splendor – nourishing programs, empowering local ministries and extending God's light to dark places. We steward each dollar with great care, knowing that what is invested today becomes a ring of growth tomorrow.

*Thank you for planting with us* and believing in long-term transformation. Your giving ensures this work will continue to flourish.



## REVENUE SOURCES

- \$19.4M Contributions
- \$2.1M Gift-in-Kind
- \$0.7M Interest and Other Income



## EXPENSE ALLOCATION

- \$10.2M Programs
- \$3.5M Operations

Figures reviewed by auditors as of Dec. 2, 2025.  
Final audit numbers available at [pfi.org/who-we-are/financials](https://pfi.org/who-we-are/financials).

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Prison Fellowship International**  
PO Box 17434  
Washington DC 20041 USA

**Prison Fellowship International (Canada)**  
PO Box 14006  
Abbotsford BC V2T 0B4 Canada  
CRA Number: 812187177 RR 00001

**Prison Fellowship International (Singapore)**  
Tanglin Post Office, PO Box 216  
Singapore 912408

**Prison Fellowship International (Germany)**  
Heinrich-Längerer-Str. 27  
Leonberg 71229 Germany