



COUNTERACT: *Walking Alongside Incarcerated Youth in Central America from Prison to Purpose*



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HOST Q&A

What is this book about?

COUNTERACT takes readers inside juvenile prisons in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras to show what happens when consistent Christian mentorship meets incarcerated youth. It shares real stories of transformation and outlines a practical, faith-based model that interrupts cycles of violence and despair.

Why is this book timely right now?

Immigration, border security, gang violence, and public safety dominate headlines in the U.S., yet few Americans see what is happening behind the walls of Central America's juvenile prisons. Thousands of young people are incarcerated after growing up in violence, poverty, and broken homes. What happens to them next affects regional stability and migration patterns that reach our own communities. This book tells the untold story of redemption taking place behind the walls. When transformation happens there, the impact reaches beyond the prison yard, even to the U.S.

What's the headline here?

Young people once involved in gangs are becoming mentors, church leaders, and business owners. This isn't theory. It's happening now. When mentorship and biblical discipleship are consistent, behavior changes because identity changes.

Why should Christians pay attention?

Because Jesus calls us to serve the prisoner, the fatherless, the poor, and the prodigal sons and daughters. He did not avoid the hardest places. He stepped into them. This book reminds us that faithful obedience still bears fruit, even behind prison walls, and invites us to be part of His story of redemption unfolding right now.

What actually happens inside these prisons?

Our team goes behind bars daily to build relationships, teach life skills, address trauma, and offer biblical mentorship. We focus on restoring four key relationships: with God, self, others, and purpose. Transformation begins long before release.

Is this sustainable, or just emotional storytelling?

It is sustainable because it is relational, structured, and long-term. We just celebrated our 25th anniversary. We have walked with incarcerated youth not only inside prison, but beyond release through education, employment pathways, church connection, and mentorship. Transformation does not end at the prison gate. It is evangelism followed by discipleship.

What is the larger takeaway for believers?

Redemption is not outdated. The Gospel still changes hardened hearts. And when Christians step into uncomfortable spaces, communities grow stronger. No young person is beyond redemption.