

From Desperation To Dedication

The success of an educated ex-con

When Troy Evans' parents and coaches remember his early years, they think of an excellent student and a potential star athlete. Troy was one of the "good" kids – upper-middle class family, ball-player, straight A student. He was supposed to go on to college or maybe pro ball. Instead, he went to the Federal Correctional Complex in Florence Colorado, a drug addict, a convicted bank robber, and a man without the will to live.

Today, Troy has emerged from prison with two degrees, and a new lease on life, due in large part to the strength and the support of his family and the power of education. Troy recognized that returning to the straight A student that he once was could help him rebuild his future. This time, however, he had to fight the system to be allowed to be a student again as well as fight for his 4.0 GPA.

Through his struggle he was able to see the potential in himself. "My favorite teacher was the one who first recognized that I was on a path of destruction and told me that I was too smart to go there," says Troy. "At the time, I didn't value myself enough to take his advice, but once I hit rock bottom, I saw that I needed to honor and value myself in order to turn my life around. It took well over a decade for me to see in myself what that teacher had seen years before, but the impact of his words were still with me when I registered for my first college course."

The Strength To Believe

Every day, teachers and school administrators hold our children's futures in their hands as educators, surrogate parents, wardens, and counselors. The emotional drain can be intense and disillusionment can lurk around every corner. Troy's story serves as an example of what happens when your educators have the strength to believe.

The Prison Inside You

While serving seven and a half years in prison, Troy Evans learned that the most confining prison walls are not made of bricks and bars but rather hopelessness, fear and self-doubt. Troy began building his walls more than a decade before his arrest. It was only after he was imprisoned behind real bars that Troy used the time for self-reflection and developed the tools and self-discipline he needed to tear down his internal prison. Only then was he able to become a better father, a better son, and a highly sought-after inspirational speaker.

Playing On The Most Important Team

While Troy Evans gave up baseball for drugs years ago, his hardships have given him a chance to play on the most important team of all – the team of humanity. Looking back, Troy remembers the coaches who encouraged him, the teacher who tried to save him, and the family that had faith in him. His story reminds us all that we are guardians of our future generations and caretakers of our society by showing us the effects that just a few people had on a boy, a criminal, and a man.



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TROY EVANS
PROFESSIONAL SPEAKER

THE EVANS GROUP

THE BENEFITS...

“ Troy changed himself. As a result, his stories and talk will immediately and effectively change every audience member. I want everyone to hear him and his important message that I love. ”

Mark Victor Hansen, Co-creator, #1 New York Times, Best-selling series Chicken Soup for the Soul™

Troy's Programs

for Teachers and School Administrators

The Strength To Believe

Faced with the ever-increasing role of educators and the fear and discouragement of recent headlines, this program rejuvenates teachers and administrators and revives their vision and purpose. Troy Evans shares his stories of failure and success with members of these noble professions to demonstrate the power they wield when they have the strength to believe and the vision to see potential and value in every student.

The Prison Inside You

If we want to heal others, we must first heal ourselves. This program will help your group to recognize the issues and emotions that inner prisons are made of, and provide them with Troy's four keys to breaking down those prison walls.

Playing On The Most Important Team

Guarding our future generations requires teamwork. This program emphasizes the importance of keeping your radar up and lines of communication open to defend children and teens who are vulnerable to paths of desperation. Troy encourages educators to combine their resources for an early offense through preventative program planning and demonstrates how teamwork and commitment can turn a loss into a win.

Choice, Challenge and Consequence: The Teenage Years

With young people, Evans speaks openly on the dangers of drug use, peer pressure and the power of responsible decision-making. He grabs the attention of today's youth by sharing what he witnessed within the harsh environment of a Federal Prison and illustrates how his years of incarceration can be linked to the decisions he made as a teenager. Teen audiences are left with a wide-eyed understanding of "consequence" and a realization that the decisions they make today have the potential to alter their entire life.



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