



**Rick Nielsen** has demonstrated on many occasions a unique ability to relate to audiences of all ages and occupations. Not only is he a dynamic speaker, he is also a magician, juggler, and humorist. These talents are combined to provide a motivational, inspirational, and entertaining program. After graduating from the University of Northern Iowa, Rick was a teacher and coach. Then he became Iowa first State Director for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, coordinating the growth of the program into one of the strongest in the nation. He founded Blueprint For Life, Inc. in 1986 and as President speaks and entertains on a national scope. Rick diversified abilities provide a platform for him to speak for a wide variety of organizations.

Since 1986, Rick has given approximately 100 days a year volunteering his time with the Bill Glass Prison Ministry. Rick abilities as an entertainer, speaker, counselor, and leader lend themselves very well to this unique and challenging arena of service. Working with professional athletes and lay counselors, Rick effectively communicates a message of hope that will last a lifetime. His work includes frequent visits to death rows, segregation lockdowns, AIDS wards, and hospital units, and he has been in over 500 of America toughest prisons. Rick is the author of Doin Time, a book that relates many of his incredible experiences in prisons and features 300 photos contributed by Pulitzer-prize nominee Ron Kuntz. In 1997, Doin Time won the prestigious International Angel Award for excellence in moral media.

In 1997, Rick was presented the Leading the Way award from KCCI Television in Des Moines for caring, creating hope, inspiring others, and making a positive difference in the community.

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## Rick Nielsen

### Speech Topics

- ☐ Youth
- ☐ Religion / Faith
- ☐ Overcoming Adversity
- ☐ Motivation
- ☐ Magic
- ☐ Inspiration

