

## Common Questions

### **I've never been inside a correctional facility—what's it like?**

Although each facility is unique, they share one priority, the safety of the inmates, deputies and volunteers.

### **How much time will be required to serve on a Sunday?**

Be prepared to spend 2.5 hours for Sunday Services. This includes the time required to get through security.

### **What am I allowed to take inside the correctional facilities with me? Can I take water, snacks or medicine?**

Primarily, only the material necessary for Sunday Service are permitted. Your team leader will provide this material. You may bring your personal Bible to most facilities. Drinks, food, candy, or cell phones are not allowed. If you must bring medication, you are required to leave it with deputies prior to entering the security gate.

### **What type of commitment is required? What if I can't make it to a meeting?**

One of the most important factors in prison ministry is consistency and faithfulness in our commitment. Teams serving Sunday Services are scheduled on a rotation of 2 services each month. Every serve opportunity relies on the efforts of a team and will not be interrupted if you are unable to serve.

### **Can I take small gifts to the inmates?**

It is likely you will find yourself connecting with the inmates and feeling compassionate toward their plight. However, the facilities policies do not allow ministry volunteers to give anything to an inmate that is not previously approved. Nothing can be given to, or taken from, an inmate at any time that has not been approved by Church of the King leadership and DOC.

### **Can I write the inmates I've met?**

DOC policies state that volunteers, who physically minister inside a correctional facility, are not allowed to visit, write or give money to an inmate. Nor may a volunteer associate with an inmate's family members.

### **Can I give an inmate my phone number or address so he/she can contact me?**

Under no circumstances are we allowed to provide personal information to an inmate. If you would like for an inmate to send something to you, have him/her send it to the Church of the King Little Creek Campus.