

Prison Ministry

Frequently asked questions:

Why go into the prisons and correctional facilities?

More than 90 % of those currently incarcerated will be released—possibly into your neighborhood. 61 % of those will return to prison as a repeat offender. Only the saving power of Jesus can change this statistic.

What kind of training is it that I have to have? Volunteers must submit application and agree to a background check. Each individual must also go through 1 ½ hour Prison Rape Elimination Act to understand guidelines for volunteering within the prison system.

How much time will prison ministry take? Anywhere from 2 hours a year to as much time as you would like to give.

Is it dangerous? It is not unusual to feel a bit uneasy the first few times you are in a penal facility--but remember, God will take care of you whenever you are in His service. In most cases, the prison chapel is a safe place and inmates are open and friendly. If you feel apprehensive, remember that God does not give a spirit of fear--so recognize where fear comes from and conquer it in the name of Jesus! (From Global Christians.org – “*You Came Unto Me- A Training Manual For Jail And Prison Ministry*”)

How would I avoid being taken advantage of? Prepare for prison ministry by reading “*You Came Unto Me- A Training Manual for Jail and Prison Ministry*” document found [here](#).

Would I be going in alone? No, you will begin by going in with experienced volunteers from the church to understand the ministry and see if you would like to continue being involved in the ministry. Some activities, such as teaching a Bible study, will require going a specific number of hours before teaching alone.