

# In Perfect Peace Ministries, Inc. - Rocklin CA

## Guidelines for Becoming a Pen Pal to Prisoners

*“Let love of the brethren continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember the prisoners, as though in prison with them, and those who are ill-treated, since you yourselves also are in the body.” Hebrews 13:1-3*

**Make preparation:** In Perfect Peace Ministries needs to know about you. Please review and/or complete the following:

- 1) IPPM Mission Statement
- 2) IPPM Doctrinal Statement
- 3) Application for becoming an inmate correspondant. Complete and sent to any of the addresses on the back of this page.

### **Be Prepared:**

- 1) By praying to seek God’s will for participating in this ministry.
- 2) By knowing and believing in our Doctrinal Statement. Sign it to verify you are affirming this statement.
- 3) We want to know your experience in witnessing to and counseling others who have had a tough life, who hunger and are deserving of spiritual encouragement and help. Please reveal any experience you’ve had in this type of ministry.
- 4) By deciding how much time you are willing to commit to this ministry.
- 5) By assuring that your spouse (if applicable) understands and agrees with your participation and commitment to this ministry.

### **Getting Down to Business:**

- 1) Realize that almost everyone asking for a pen pal will either be a Christian or have a desire to become one.
- 2) Our objective is two-fold:
  - (A) An assured salvation of everyone with whom we correspond.
  - (B) A desire to join together with the individual and effectively shepherd them in the Christian faith, and to help them grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.
- 3) When you are asked questions for which you have no adequate answers, feel free to email or call one of the staff members listed on the back of this page so that the issue can be resolved.
- 4) It is not advisable to use your personal or home address as a return. Use the IPPM PO Box #.
- 5) Make sure you answer all letters within a week if possible.
- 6) Make sure your letter is properly addressed to include:
  - A) Inmate Name & ID Number

- B) Housing Unit or cell number if provided
  - C) Name of Correctional Facility
  - D) Complete Street or PO Box Number, City, State, and Zip Code
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- 7) Any inmate may request that you send them funds to use for personal needs such as personal items, phone time, or other commissary (store) needs. It is suggested that this be done only on special occasions and after speaking with a director.
  - 8) Requests for books are acceptable but must meet specific DOC guidelines for that state. They cannot be hardback books and they must be delivered directly from a legitimate vendor.
  - 9) Many penal institutions have special guidelines as to what you may include with your letter. If you need to address this, Google the institution and check mail policy for information.
  - 10) If you need questions answered or are just unsure about anything don't hesitate to call Gregg Harris at 817-5001333 at any time.

**Special Note One:**

It is the policy of In Perfect Peace Ministries that only same sexes correspond with each other. Qualified men will write male inmates and qualified women will write females.

**Special Note Two:**

IPPM Pen pals may use their home addresses to accept returning mail. If this isn't acceptable, you may use your church, a personal PO Box or the IPPM PO Box.

May God bless and guide you. Rejoice in the freedom you have in Christ and reach out to someone in need of that spiritual freedom only found in Christ. God is in this and He knows Your desire to be used by Christ for those in need.

Gregg Harris  
PO Box 763  
Rocklin, CA 95677  
1-817-500-1333  
[folsomprisonministry@yahoo.com](mailto:folsomprisonministry@yahoo.com)

Jeffrey Wheldon  
PO Box 2991  
Merced, CA 95344  
1-209-455-6165  
[jeffreywheldon@gmail.com](mailto:jeffreywheldon@gmail.com)

Joseph Walling  
PO Box 614  
Altoona, PA 16603  
1-814-660-7072  
[wallingjoseph1@gmail.com](mailto:wallingjoseph1@gmail.com)