

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

Elkhart County Jail Ministry's Standards for INTERACTING WITH FRIENDS WHO ARE INCARCERATED

- 1** Have the humility to acknowledge we don't have all the answers.

"Pride leads to disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom." -Proverbs 11:2

- 2** Show grace to other believers who believe differently than you.

"Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone." -Colossians 4:6

"They must not slander anyone and must avoid quarreling. Instead, they should be gentle and show true humility to everyone." -Titus 3:2

- 3** Know that God will use people who are incarcerated to minister to you, just as he will use you to minister to them.

"Instead, God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful." -1 Corinthians 1:27

"So those who are last now will be first then, and those who are first will be last." -Matthew 20:16

- 4** Listen more than you speak.

"Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry." -James 1:19

- 5** How we teach is as important as what we teach.

"If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing." -1 Corinthians 13:2

- 6** Treat everyone as your equal.

"Don't let anyone call you 'Rabbi,' for you have only one teacher, and all of you are equal as brothers and sisters." -Matthew 23:8

"Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves." -Philippians 2:3

- 7** Never be the reason for someone's shame.

"So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus." -Romans 8:1

- 8** Listen to understand, not argue.

"Remind everyone about these things, and command them in God's presence to stop fighting over words. Such arguments are useless, and they can ruin those who hear them." -2 Timothy 2:14

"Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires." -James 1:20

- 9** Strive to prove your faith by your actions, not your words.

"Now someone may argue, 'Some people have faith; others have good deeds.' But I say, 'How can you show me your faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds.'" -James 2:18

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We are building the Kingdom, not a denomination.



And this is his commandment:
We must believe
in the name of his Son,
Jesus Christ,
and love one another,
just as he commanded us.

1 JOHN 3:23