

"You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God." - Ephesians 2:19

LETTER-WRITING GUIDELINES

DO

- **Be legible!** Printing clearly helps your letter have maximum impact, no matter who reads it.
- **Be clear!** Stick to simple English and include a few Bible verses with references.
- **Be sensitive!** Don't dwell on their plight or promise earthly relief from their situation
- **Be encouraging!** Remind the recipient of the hope that all believers have in Christ.

DON'T

- Don't criticize the government, the judicial system, the charges brought against the prisoner, or the prison itself.
- Don't criticize the religions or the political parties of the country to which you're sending a letter.
- Don't mention ICC in your letters—linking them to an organization could potentially extend a prisoner's sentence. Do not include the profile card in your letter.
- Don't include your full name or return address—state and country is enough and is safer for you.
- Don't send money or offer assistance—the money is extremely unlikely to reach the prisoner, and ICC has funds dedicated to helping these prisoners and their families in more reliable and sustainable ways.
- Drawings of animals may not be culturally appropriate.



Now all you need to do is put an international stamp on the envelope, address the letter, and drop it in the regular mail!

"We were so encouraged that many people were standing with us...it was heartwarming to know that we were not alone"

— Maryam Rostampour and Marziyeh Amirizadeh

EXAMPLES

Dear Ibrahim,

I want to write and thank you for your faithfulness to the Gospel. Your steadfastness is heard all around the world by fellow believers who know your story and pray for your release. Psalm 23 reminds me that the Lord is your shepherd, and I pray that you would feel His presence even during your time in prison. We love you and will not forget you.

Blessings, Samuel

"I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world" —Romans 1:8

Dear Elder Zhang,

I pray that you would feel the loving arms of our savior Jesus Christ around you during your time in prison. Your faithfulness is a testimony to the power of God. You live out Philippians 1:21 which says that, for a Christian, to live is Christ and to die is gain. I will continue to pray that God would encourage and strengthen you.

Blessings, Jonathan

Dear Pastor Matthias,

Thank you for your faithful service to Jesus Christ and to the Gospel. Your brothers and sisters around the world see your dedication to the truth and applaud you for your constancy. We pray for you and keep up to date on your condition. You are our fellow citizen in the household of God (Ephesians 2:19), and we will continue to lift you up in our prayers.

Blessings in Christ, Jane

"As we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too."

—2 Corinthians 1:5