



RICK SHARKEY

📍 *Chaplain • Louisiana*

Our prayer time today is going to be sort of a lock-in because we want to think about the Louisiana State Penitentiary. With more than 6,000 prisoners and covering 18,000 acres, the Louisiana State Penitentiary is the nation's largest maximum security prison. It is bordered on three sides by the Mississippi River. Most prisoners there have been sentenced to life in prison for terrible crimes.

But here's some better news. The prison also has a Baptist church; prisoners arrive wearing shackles. There's also a Bible college operated by New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and, yes, that's one of the six seminaries our church supports through the Cooperative Program.

The person in this prison we want to pray for today is one of the Baptist chaplains named Rick Sharkey. He teaches the Bible and disciples the prisoners who become followers of Christ. But he does not preach because he wants the prisoners to do the preaching. We know that Rick's ministry is both very difficult and very rewarding.

Rick is one of the more than 3,000 chaplains endorsed by our North American Mission Board, which our church also supports through the Cooperative Program. Let's pray for Rick now.