## STAMP MINISTRY GUIDELINES for 2023

Thank you for the stamps you send to this ministry. The income generated by this ministry goes to support the preparation, publishing and distribution of a Spanish language curriculum for Sunday Schools. More than 50 lesson series have been published and are being used in churches of 40 different denominations and missions in 19 different Spanish speaking countries in South America, Central America, Spain and even the USA.

A NEW DVD, created in November 2021, is now available to help in sharing the Stamp Ministry with your church, family and friends. A donation of \$10.00 covers the cost of production, handling and postage.

## **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Carefully trim the stamps. When possible, leave a border around the stamp of 1/4" to 1/3"
   Please do not remove any stamps from the paper BUT, if stamps are already off paper we have a buyer for them.
- 2. Sort the stamps and place in plastic bags. Do not use paper clips, rubber bands or saran wrap around the stamps.
- Unless specified, the categories below refer to <u>United States</u> stamps and should be sorted as follows:
  - Small common together, 1/2 cent through current postal rate, including Hanukkah, Kwanza, EID, Purple Heart and Celebrate (common stamps are no bigger than this "Celebrate" stamp)
  - o Christmas (includes Winter Birds, Winter Berries, Winter Scenes, Otters and Snowy Beauties)
  - o High value anything over the current first class postal rate together
  - o Air Mail together (40c and higher)
  - o Presorted, pre cancelled, nonprofit and bulk rate (these are glued on stamps not information printed on paper)
  - Large commemoratives (usually rectangular or larger squares) (bigger than the black "Celebrate" stamp
  - o Express stamps \$2.90, \$8.75, \$9.95, \$10.95 and up
  - o Priority stamps \$2.40, \$2.90 and up
  - o Love stamps together
  - o Separate foreign stamps into ON paper (please do NOT trim) and OFF paper
  - o Canadian stamps together (please do NOT trim the ON paper)
  - o Uncancelled stamps
  - o Computer generated postage (with an illustration or a photograph) (with a black mosaic like 17.4%)
     computer stamps with a Christmas motif belong with computer stamps NOT in Christmas
  - o Stamps that are pre-printed pictures on envelopes
  - o Damaged stamps
  - Stamps off paper
  - o Please DO NOT send metered mail nor the permit number of businesses and organizations
  - We no longer soak stamps off paper. Colored envelope paper is not to be separated out.
  - o We collect OLD picture post cards both unused and used. If used, please leave the stamps on the cards.

## **IMPORTANT:**

Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope with name and address inside the top of the package so we can acknowledge receipt of the stamps.

An email address and / or a phone number would enable us to contact you if the need arises.

May the Lord bless each of you Stampers!

Alliance Stamp Ministry 15000 Shell Point Boulevard Fort Myers, FL 33908

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NEW

If you can LICK it or STICK it we can use it!