

# WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM MY CHAPLAIN?



U.S. Navy Ensign Jeehoon Bang, former U.S. Marine Corps corporal, hugs U.S. Navy Capt. Tara Smith during his commissioning ceremony at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia, June 4, 2024. Ensign Bang served in the Marine Corps for nine years and aspired to become the leader he wanted early in his career. He plans to further develop his leadership and continue his service to his country and others as a chaplain in the Navy.

— Photo by Lance Cpl. Anthony Ramsey

## CHAPLAINS PROVIDE RELIGIOUS MINISTRY AND SUPPORT TO SERVICE MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES. THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:

**PROVISION** of religious ministry, Bible studies, devotionals, prayer, and faith-based counseling.

**FACILITATION** of growth for growth in your specific faith practice by expanding access to religious needs and resources, Chaplains Religious Enrichment Development Operation (CREDO), and other referrals.

**CARE** for all through confidential pastoral counseling, crisis counseling, operational stress support, and much more.

**ADVISE** commanders and leaders concerning ethics, morale, and religious impact on operations.

## COMMON QUESTIONS

### WHAT IS CONFIDENTIALITY?

Chaplains provide counseling compassionately and privately. Chaplains maintain absolute confidentiality with no exceptions and are not mandatory reporters (SECNAVINST 1730.9A).

### WHAT IS A RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION?

A religious accommodation can be granted upon the approval of a request based on a sincerely held religious belief when such requests do not adversely affect a Marine or unit's mission accomplishment capabilities (MCO 1730.9).

### WHO CAN SPEAK TO A CHAPLAIN?

Service members, their families, and DoD Common Access Card holders can speak with a chaplain and receive absolute confidentiality.