



FCPO - CANADA

The Peacemaker



August, 2021

From the President's Desk



Finally, we are near the end of the COVID-19 pandemic! Who would have ever thought such a devastating thing would happen in our lifetime? However, those of us who have faith in God, knew that He was always in charge, and the most important thing was to stand fast in The Faith.

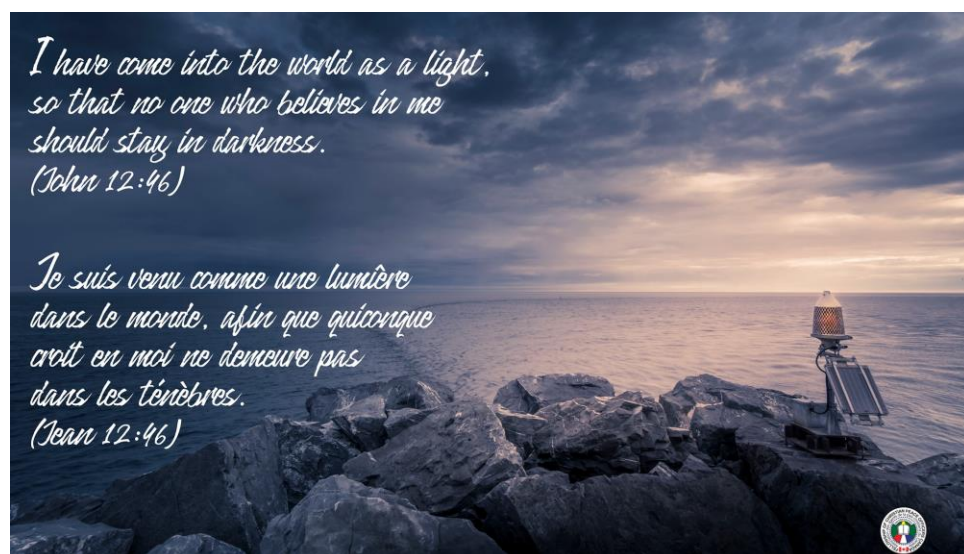
I'm sure you will enjoy J. Warner Wallace's contribution "Why The Gospel Is Good News For Police Officers". This issue also contains a few musical links that I hope you will enjoy.

I'm grateful that we received some Letters to the Editor. As always, I do encourage folks to send us an article or a letter that we can use in your Peacemaker. **Please be sure to read the "Special Request"** (page 16).

In the last issue, I made note of a famous landmark in Edmonton - "The Jesus Elevator". That prompted me to do some research and I found out that a book had just been written about the history of that landmark. In this issue we hear from the man that put the scripture on that elevator. In his book he tells not only the story of the elevator but also gives some great insight into his personal journey of finding and following Jesus. - very inspiring!

*I have come into the world as a light,
so that no one who believes in me
should stay in darkness.
(John 12:46)*

*Je suis venu comme une lumière
dans le monde, afin que quiconque
croit en moi ne demeure pas
dans les ténèbres.
(Jean 12:46)*



Now that we can see the light at the end of the tunnel, we're looking forward to continuing "[Project Sword](#)", with special distribution events to offer a free new special law enforcement New Testament to any serving Canadian peace officer. Thanks for your tremendous support for this initiative - we're not done yet!

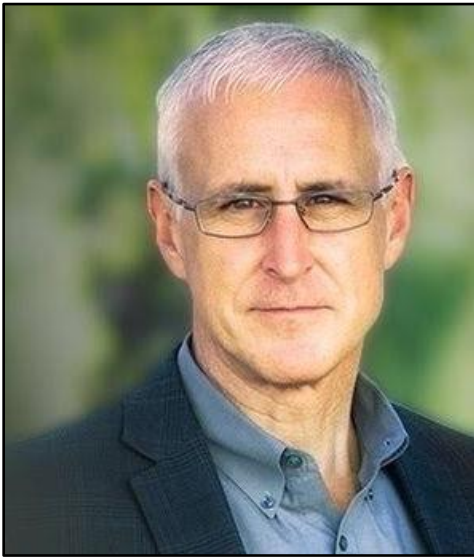
God bless,

Ron

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Why The Gospel Is Good News For Police Officers

Article courtesy of J. Warner Wallace and The Thin Blue Life <http://www.thethinbluelife.com>



J. Warner Wallace

Police officers are often the bearers of “bad news”. It’s part of our job.

“You’re under arrest,” “Your husband was killed in a robbery,” “No, we still haven’t located your son,” “I’m writing you a ticket for speeding.” We are often the bearer of bad tidings. Maybe that’s why we have a hard time accepting “good news,” even when it could change our lives forever.

The Gospel of Jesus is that kind of good news.

“Gospel” is derived from an Old English word, “godspel”, or “good story” and was substituted for the original Biblical Greek word “euaggelion” which first signified “a present given to one who brought good tidings”, or “a sacrifice offered in thanksgiving for such good tidings having come”. The “gospel” is God’s “good tidings” toward us, and it’s *especially* good news for police officers.

Most seasoned officers know that “bad guys” aren’t the only ones who mess up. Everyone violates the law at one time or another, and that includes *us*. Look at your own life. While it’s true that we might look good when compared to some of the law breakers we meet in the street, none of us can say we are morally *perfect*. Can you honestly say you’ve *never* acted out of selfish ambition? *Never* taken something that wasn’t yours? *Never* cheated on a loved one? *Never* had an evil thought about anyone? *Never* gossiped about a co-worker? *Never* thought about someone in a sexually inappropriate way?

If there’s an all-powerful God who created everything in the universe from *nothing*, He certainly has the power to eliminate moral imperfection in Himself. That’s why God is the one morally *perfect* Being. So, how do you think you would measure up against *His* standard? Could you stand before the perfect judge and claim you’re *blameless*? The ancient authors of the Bible recognized that “*all* have sinned and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23), so don’t feel bad, you’re not alone.

As police officers, we – *above many others* – know that there is a consequence for crime. Misbehavior results in judgment and punishment. The ancients also knew “the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23). If God is both loving and just, He *must* hold us accountable for our moral failings. As imperfect beings, we simply cannot be united to a perfect God unless we somehow serve the penalty for sin.

So, far, this doesn’t sound like good news, does it?

God has a solution for our sin problem, however. He promises to offer a way home. “The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 6:23). God offers us

eternal life with Him, even though we don’t deserve it. God had us in His sights, even when we weren’t looking for Him: “God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8).

God offers imperfect humans – *even imperfect police officers* – a perfect eternity. No strings attached. It’s a gift. We simply have to accept it. “If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10:9). If we believe that Jesus is who He said He was (God incarnate who came to take the punishment we deserve), and accept His sacrifice on the cross (where He paid the penalty for our misbehavior), we will be saved for all eternity, “for *everyone* who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved” (Romans 10:13). ” Salvation (the forgiveness of sins) is available to anyone who places their trust in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

But there’s more.

Those who recognize their sin and accept what Jesus did for them on the cross, experience a new kind of *peace*. Don’t tell me you’re not ready for *that*. In many states, law enforcement officers are called “Peace Officers,” even though our jobs seem *less* than peaceful most of the time. Usually, we are called to *establish* the peace, even if only temporarily. But this mission doesn’t always result in a peaceful work-shift, off-duty life, or marriage. The burden of persistent “peace making” can take its toll.

Are you anxious, tired, disappointed, frustrated, or just concerned about the future of your community and profession? Having a hard time finding *peace*?

Let the good news of salvation in Jesus change your life. “Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 5:1). “There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus” (Romans 8:1), and “neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:38-39).

If you’re a skeptical cop like I was for the first eight years of my law enforcement career, I don’t expect you to accept this good news just because it might provide you with the benefit of peace (although it

GOD OFFERS IMPERFECT HUMANS – EVEN
IMPERFECT POLICE OFFICERS – A PERFECT
ETERNITY. @THETHINBLUELIFE [CLICK TO TWEET](#)

certainly will). I expect you to skeptically investigate the claims of Christianity. That’s what I did. I used my skills as a detective to examine the New Testament accounts of Jesus of Nazareth. I was shocked to find how well they held up under the standards I had been using to

determine if eyewitnesses were reliable.

I’m not a Christian today just because it provides me with eternal peace (even in turbulent times). I’m a Christian because it is *true*. I’m a Christian because I want to live in a way that *reflects the truth*. I’m a Christian because my high regard for the truth *leaves me no alternative*.

If you’re a police officer, I invite you – in fact I *implore* you – to examine the case for yourself. Jesus has the power to save your soul, renew your mind, and restore your peace. It will change your life because it is true. *That’s* why it’s good news for police officers.

J. Warner Wallace is a Dateline featured cold-case homicide detective, popular national speaker and best-selling author ([Cold-Case Christianity](#)). He continues to consult on cold-case investigations while serving as a Senior Fellow at the Colson Center for Christian Worldview. He is also an Adj. Professor of Christian Apologetics at Talbot School of Theology, Biola University, and a faculty member at Summit Ministries. He holds a BA in Design (from CSULB), an MA in Architecture (from UCLA), and an MA in Theological Studies (from Gateway Seminary).

Just as I Am

By: Sgt. Dino Doria (Ret'd), Ontario Director



Sgt. Dino Doria (Rtd.)

we are to come to Christ just as we are.

This devotional brings us back to the "Good Good News!"

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

The amazing part of this Good News is for everyone to come "Just as we are".

It is a reminder for believers and unbelievers that the Lord Jesus Christ has paid the ultimate price at the old rugged cross for all our shortcomings. Which brings to mind the words of an old hymn that speaks to the human condition and that

*Just as I am, without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bid'st me come to Thee
O Lamb of God, I come! I come*

*Just as I am, though tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt
Fighting and fears within without
O Lamb of God, I come, I come*

*Just as I am, and waiting not
to rid my soul of one dark blot
to thee whose blood can cleanse each spot
O Lamb of God, I come, I come*

*Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind
Sight, riches, healing of the mind
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!*

*Just as I am, Thou wilt receive
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve
Because Thy promise I believe
O Lamb of God, I come, I come*

*Because Thy promise I believe
O Lamb of God, I come, I come*

Thanks be to God who Has sent His son Jesus and our Comforter the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

The Holy Spirit is our teacher and comforter - He comforts us when we are down and weak. He stirs up our inner being with Hope for today and the future. He Whispers gently into our heart and reminds us of His Love for us.

His Holy Spirit brings us gently back to the cross where we are reminded to come as we are. *There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.* Romans 8:1

The word "now" in this verse stands out loud and clear because it demonstrates a timeless reference - no matter when this is read - it applies to the now, it applied to all the believers from the past - it applies to all the believers of this time and it applies to all future believers - It Applies to you "Now"! Jesus has sealed this promise on the cross when he said *"It is Finished!"*

And I am convinced and sure of this very thing, that He Who began a good work in you will continue until the day of Jesus Christ [right up to the time of His return],

developing [that good work] and perfecting and bringing it to full completion in you. Philippians 1:6 AMPC

God Bless you!

Dino

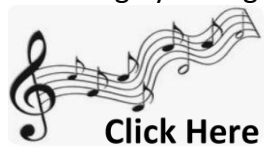


Real Friends

By: Ronald Mostrey, President FCPO-Canada

After all we have been through with this pandemic mess, I was reflecting on how good it is to have friends and enjoy fellowship with one another - we've missed that.

A song I really enjoy is Imaginary Friends by Ron Sexsmith. It speaks of friends who are not "real" friends - they're just "imaginary" friends. If you've never heard the song, I encourage you to give it a listen.



I think we have all unfortunately encountered such friends, and if we are honest with ourselves, maybe we have been like that. I'm particularly thinking of colleagues who we have as friends until they face a crisis. Often we see it coming - alcohol abuse, extramarital affairs, uncontrolled temper, suspect dealings with informants, gambling and debt problems etc. And then finally one day, that inevitable encounter with Internals. When very serious allegations are brought, it can be said that is when one finds out who their real friends are.

A friend loves at all times, And a brother is born for adversity. Proverbs 17:17

As real friends, the important thing is to be there for those who are facing adversity, even if it was of their own making. We should not be an "imaginary" friend to anyone.

In writing this article, I turned my attention to a "friend" who is there for us 24/7 - Jesus. Many of you, if not all of you, know the hymn "[What a Friend we have in Jesus](#)". I suspect most do not know the story behind the author. This famous hymn was written in 1846 by Joseph M. Scriven, who as a young man, emigrated from Ireland to Canada in 1845.

Imaginary Friends

By: Ron Sexsmith

Imaginary friends
They will always let you down
And when all the good times end
You won't be seeing them around

For they run where the action is
And they'll cross you off their list
Do you comprehend now
To imaginary friends
You don't exist
No

They'll ask you where you've been
But never wait for your reply
They'll meet you when your ship comes in
But never meet you eye to eye

As all the friends who've been real and true
Wonder who you're talking to
One thing you can depend on
Imaginary friends
They can't see you
No

You can paint them a beautiful picture
But they won't understand
You can count all your friends on the fingers
Of one scalded hand

Imaginary friends
They will always leave you hanging
And you won't see them again

For they've gone where the action is
And they've crossed you off their list
Do you comprehend now
Imaginary friends
They don't exist
No

Imaginary friends
They don't exist
No no no

He wrote the words to the hymn as a poem to comfort his ailing mother in Ireland. Several years later in 1865, the poem was published anonymously in Horace Hastings' collection "Social Hymns: Original and Selected." A music publisher subsequently paired the poem with Charles Converse's melody, and Ira Sankey popularized the hymn by publishing it (still anonymously) in his well-known collection, "Sankey's Gospel Hymns Number One" in 1875. Sankey again published it in "Song of Pilgrimage" in 1886, this time crediting Scriven. Sankey's colleague, American evangelist Dwight Moody, further spread Scriven's song across North America.

With its popularity lasting over 165 years and counting, What a Friend We Have in Jesus is a much-loved fixture of Christian music. Even though this hymn became one of the world's most popular and moving hymns, Mr. Scriven neither received nor sought any recognition or fame.

Joseph Scriven was born in Ireland, was educated at Dublin's Trinity College. A teacher, he moved to Canada in his 20s, settling near Port Hope, Ontario, where he devoted himself to helping the less fortunate. In his life he faced much tragedy. He became a street preacher and was viewed by some as a nuisance, and at one point was arrested and jailed as such.



Joseph Medlicott Scriven,
(10 September 1819 – 10 August 1886)

Joseph Scriven died in 1886, not knowing the fame and impact of his song. He was buried in the Pengeley Cemetery, Pengeley Landing, Peterborough County, Ontario. His grave was marked by a very simple marker, just bearing his name.¹

In 1919, a tall obelisk was built upon his grave with the words from the song and the following inscription:

This monument was erected to the memory of Joseph Scriven, B.A., by lovers of his hymn, which is engraved hereon, and is his best memorial.

*What a friend we have in Jesus, all
our sins and griefs to bear; what a
privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer.
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
oh what needless pain we bear, all
because we do not carry
everything to God on prayer.*

*Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged: take
it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful, who
will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness:
take it to the Lord in prayer.*

Cherished in many languages: [Russian](#) [Korean](#) [German](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#) [Dutch](#) [Hindi](#) [Mandarin](#) [Cherokee](#) [Japanese](#) [Swahili](#) [Italian](#) [Burmese](#) [Ugandan](#) [Vietnamese](#) [Arabic](#) [Bengali](#) [Telugu](#) [Marathi](#)

A video of the tragic story of Joseph Scriven's life can be found here:

<https://www.porthopehbia.com/discover/joseph-scriven-1819-1886/>

BLUE|LINE



Canadian Christian Directory

Bringing People Together

Read Ron Mostrey's editorial: "[Do we need police?](#)"

¹ <https://www.cshf.ca/song/what-a-friend-we-have-in-jesus/>

Christian Warrior: HOLD THE LINE!

By: Police Lt. (Ret'd) & Chaplain MC Williams



Lt. MC Williams (Ret'd) & Chaplain

In these "end times" when cowardly "leaders" and Satan's minions are ordering Christians and police officers alike to "RETREAT" in the face of evil and lawlessness, God is commanding His warriors to: **"HOLD THE LINE!"**

Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. Ephesians 6:11



Sadly and tragically, we are living in a day when cowardly, NON-leaders are unethically and even illegally ordering us to "stand down" and even retreat from the lawlessness and forces of evil arrayed against us on multiple fronts (a direct violation of our oath, mind you). Yet nowhere in Scripture does God call His servant-warriors (physical and spiritual) to retreat in the face of evil.

Aside from the understanding that coming to salvation in Christ

means "surrendering" ALL to Him in faith, I am pressed to share God's call for His warriors (**Romans 13:1-4, Ephesians 6:10-18**) -- be it the police and military in the physical realm or Christians in the spiritual -- to stand firm and **HOLD THE LINE** behind Christ our King and [Captain](#).

So, what does God say to us about this in His Word (the Bible -- the Christian warrior's "policy and procedure manual")? A [plethora](#) (LOL), but for this message I'm going to limit it to six short points:

(1) NEVER SURRENDER!

On October 29, 1941, in the midst of a horrific war against the forces of evil, Winston Churchill -- perhaps not even understanding how biblical his words would be -- delivered one of his most famous speeches to the students at his alma mater in England. And the most memorable lines from this speech are these:

"Never give in, never give in, never, never, never, never - in nothing, great or small, large, or petty - never give in except to convictions of honour and good sense. Never yield to force; never yield to the apparently overwhelming might of the enemy."

We must understand the context of this speech. WWII had been raging for two years. France had fallen to the Nazis, along with numerous other smaller nations. Soviet Russia was reeling under a massive German invasion. The United States was trying to avoid sending its boys to their deaths (Pearl Harbor would occur just five weeks later). Britain was standing largely alone as the bulwark against the violent tidal wave of Hitler's ambition. The days were still dark (or "stern" as Churchill preferred) and ominous. There were some rays of hope, but victory was by no means certain. Germany still had the momentum.

As Churchill addressed an auditorium of frightened young schoolboys who might soon be facing bullets as soldiers, and a terrified British public who were traumatized by the devastating bombs of the German Luftwaffe and demoralized by discouraging reports in the press, he did not speak words of consolation, but of exhortation: **never give in!** This was far more than a call for endurance; this was a call for relentless courage and take-it-to-the-enemy moxie.

And where do we find this in God's Word, the Bible? First, understand that our Lord is no spineless pacifist but rather a mighty [WARRIOR](#). Secondly, understand that as believers (Christians as God defines it), our STRENGTH for the battle is found in Christ alone -- click on [STRENGTH in Christ](#).

(2) We Are at WAR

We are at war. When Jesus called us as disciples, He not only delivered us from the domain of darkness (**Colossians 1:13**), he drafted us into His army fighting standing the powers of darkness ([Ephesians 6:11-12](#); [2 Timothy 2:3](#)). War is not just a metaphor for the spiritual and physical (the latter for those of us who serve in combat and law enforcement) reality we experience. If anything, earthly (physical) combat/warfare is metaphor for the spiritual. More accurately, earthly war -- including the wickedness of ["The War on Cops"](#) -- is just one of the horrible ways that spiritual warfare manifests itself in the physical realm.

If we do not believe we are at war, we will be ill-prepared for what is coming or disillusioned about what has happened. In warfare and the battle against crime and lawlessness, conflict, hardship, risk, injury, suffering and even death are the norm. The Bible tells all faithful followers of Jesus to expect these trials (**John 16:33**; **2 Timothy 3:12**), because we live like sheep in the midst of wolves (**Matthew 10:16**); we live in enemy territory (**1 John 5:19**). If we do not believe we are in a war, we will keep trying to make peace with the devil, thinking we are doing the right thing.

Despite Churchill's continual warnings of the growing German threat throughout the 1930's, most of Britain's leaders lived in what my friend Lt. Col. Dave Grossman terms ["the land DENIAL"](#) as they vilified Churchill as a warmonger. As a result, they led the British public to believe in a false security. In 1938, Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain even went too far as to sign an agreement with Hitler through which he falsely proclaimed, "peace for our time." Less than a year later, a woefully unprepared Great Britain was forced to declare war on Germany.

We are at war, not peace. We must recognize the signs of the times (**Matthew 16:3**). We must watch with biblical discernment the movements of the enemy and not be ignorant of his schemes (**2 Corinthians 2:11**). Now while we who serve in law enforcement are fighting a very real physical (human) enemy ([Romans 13:1-4](#)), what we're ALL dealing with here are spiritual principalities and

powers, "spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places" (**Ephesians 6:12**). This is not a time to secure peace. This is a time to get in the fight behind Christ our Captain!

* For more, click on [The Armor of God](#).

(3) Expect to FIGHT

Christian author and blogger Jon Bloom (whose work served as a resource for this study) writes, *"Those of us who live in affluent regions of the world will need to fight just to view life as war. Affluence conditions us for comfort. It conditions us to expect abundance and convenience and leisure and entertainment. It encourages us to aim for material security."*

But a soldier and police officer -- **the warrior** -- does not live a balanced or secure life. The true warrior lives a focused life of strategic sacrifice. The warrior lives for one overriding aim: victory for over evil (both physical and spiritual).

Sadly, an enemy attack is often an unexpected shock to those who expect peace and security (or have failed to train). In wartime, soldiers expect to fight. Those of us in law enforcement expect to be attacked. We train with that expectation and are not shocked when the attacks come. Such is the nature of war: enemies attack; soldiers fight, the police take on criminals and now politicians and pundits engaged in wicked lawlessness. Combat -- both physical and spiritual -- are part of our vocation and calling.

In short, we must not entangle ourselves in civilian pursuits because we are devoted to one overriding aim: **victory** ([2 Timothy 2:3-4](#))!

Praise God, Jesus Christ -- history's greatest warrior -- came to make peace possible between a holy, righteous God and sinful man, and between redeemed people of every ethnicity, skin color and background ([Ephesians 2:14-16](#)). But He did not come to bring earthly peace to the devil or those given over to him, but rather a sword ([Matthew 10:34](#)). And those of us who follow Jesus must not only pick up our crosses (**Luke 9:23**), but also our spiritual sword and armor ([Ephesians 6:10-18](#)). Because He has called us to fight -- and fight we must!

(4) The SOUND of ENCOURAGEMENT

A year before his speech, in even darker days, immediately following the heroic deliverance of 335,000 British and French troops from German capture in the Battle of Dunkirk, Churchill encouraged the British Parliament and people, as well as the world, with these words of resolve:

*"...we shall not flag or fail. We shall go on to the end, we shall fight in France, we shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air, we shall defend our Island, whatever the cost may be, we shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall **never surrender**."*

This is what encouragement **sounds** like. Encouragement is not just tender consolation for the suffering, it is strong exhortation to the fainthearted. This is how we should speak to each other in wartime,

especially when the shadow of evil is cast over us. This is not a time to give in to fear. It is not a time for despair. This is a time for **resolve**. It is a time, not for posturing and swagger, but for a humble, Jesus-trusting, Word-grounded, Spirit-filled determination. It is a time for holy Christian moxie (what Eric Ludy calls our [Ancient War Cry](#))!

(5) HOLD THE LINE!

For we are at war. War against evil, and war with the forces and powers of hell itself. It's ugly, cruel, disorienting, and violent on numerous levels. This present darkness is out to destroy us, our miracle of a nation, our Constitution, those we love, and as many people around the world as possible, body and soul.

But we have far more reason for hope than Britain ever had in the early 1940's. Victory -- for us who know Christ as Lord and Savior -- is certain. The enemy is attacking on many fronts, but he is also in retreat. The kingdom of Heaven has been advancing for two millennia and will relentlessly continue until the full number of saints have been rescued from satanic capture (**1 Timothy 2:4; Romans 11:25; Revelation 6:11**).

And you have a post to stand and a line to hold that has been assigned to you personally by our Lord. It does not matter how prominent your post is. It does not matter how intense the fighting at your place in the line. It does not even matter if you survive the battle, for you will ultimately survive "the war" ([Luke 21:12-19](#)). What matters is "the Cause" of Christ. That is what our lives as believers should be about.

So, **HOLD the LINE** with all your might. [Train](#) (spiritually, that means spending time in the Word, prayer and ["iron sharpens iron"](#) fellowship with other believers), stay alert, and do not neglect your responsibilities. Do not defame our Captain, hinder His Cause, or harm your comrades by devoting yourself to civilian or sinful pursuits (**2 Timothy 2:4**). Stay at your post and **HOLD the LINE** until God gives orders for redeployment, a new assignment or call for service. When that happens, serve your replacement as best you can, then pick up your weapons and move to the next deployment or your next call, regardless of how obscure the post or minor the assignment. Patiently and prayerfully wait for your orders. Remain in active service (no "inactive reserve" or retirement mess) until you receive your divine discharge in heaven ([2 Timothy 4:6-8](#)).

And *fight the good fight* (**1 Timothy 6:12**). [Stay the course!](#) **Stand firm!** [Stand in the gap.](#) As *far as it depends on us, let us be at peace with all men* (**Romans 12:18**), but **stand firm** to the death against the spiritual forces of wickedness -- for we who are ["in Christ"](#) will never truly die ([John 11:26](#)). If the enemy takes the beach, let us fight him in the fields. If he takes the field, let us fight him in the streets, refusing to surrender and yes, praying for our enemies (the devil and his demon horde aside, of course) while maintaining a "Code 3" sense of urgency for the lost (a "spiritual combat medic").

And let us trust our Supreme Commander with overall strategy and force deployment. He knows what He's doing and will bring the enemy down. For our part, let us be faithful to **HOLD THE LINE** and resolve to never, never, **never surrender** while knowing that [He is fighting for us and leading us to victory!](#)

(6) Watch and PRAY

To stand firm and not surrender, we must commit ourselves to diligent prayer. To successfully **hold the line** against an enemy of Satan's power and evil magnitude, we must walk in the strength of the Lord. Look again at the Armor of God in **Ephesians 6** (verses 18-20) as our Lord -- through Paul -- shows us how to pray in a way that will help us stand firm in the both the physical and spiritual battles:

- (a) Pray at all times
- (b) Pray faithfully.
- (c) Pray with toughness or perseverance.
- (d) Pray for other Christians and for our fellow officers.
- (e) Pray for **courage** to stand firm in Christ and also to share the hope we have in Him with the lost.

Finally, understand again that the power to STAND, to never surrender, to **HOLD the LINE**, to finish strong and achieve ultimate victory over our common enemy is available **ONLY** to those who have been "*born again*" in Christ (a Christian as only God gets to define it) and thus have the [Holy Spirit living inside them](#) and empowering them. Is that you? Do you have the power that is available **ONLY** to believers?

[Reach out](#) if you have questions and know how proud I am [to stand together](#) and "[lock shields](#)" with you in the battle!



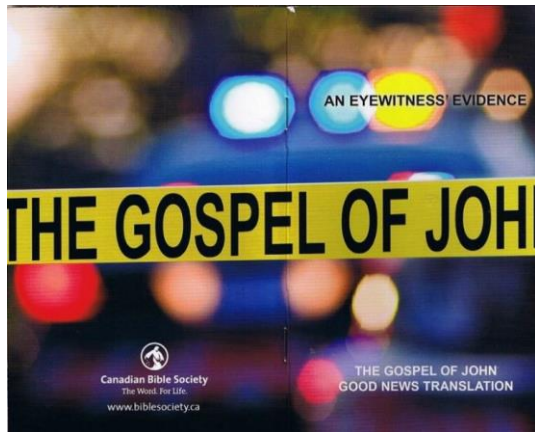
[The Centurion Law Enforcement Ministry](#) is a non-denominational, evangelical Christian outreach by, for and about law enforcement (police, deputies, investigators, probation/parole, corrections, etc.) and military personnel. TCLEM is affiliated with the Fellowship of Christian Peace Officers (FCPO) and provides Bible-based support, fellowship and accountability for officers worldwide. We also seek to infuse Christian servant-leadership into our profession and equip the Christian officer to boldly share and live the Gospel.

Let your colleagues, family, and friends know about FCPO!

Membership is free! Members receive this quarterly newsletter. We have 2 types of membership: Regular Membership (voting) is for current or retired peace officers, while Associate Membership (non-voting) is for [any Christian](#) who agrees with our [Statement of Faith](#). **Join online at:**

www.fcpocanada.com

The Canadian Bible Society



One of the strongest supporters of our ministry over the past several years has been the [Canadian Bible Society](#) (CBS). We have formed an excellent partnership with them as we both engage in furthering the Gospel in our unique ways.

As a national religious charitable organization, the purposes of the Canadian Bible Society are to translate without doctrinal note, publish, and distribute the Christian Scriptures, and to promote and encourage the use of the Bible, throughout Canada and worldwide in cooperation with members

of the [United Bible Societies](#) and other organizations.

An Eyewitness' Evidence - The Gospel of John, is a very unique booklet that they donate to us. One of the most valuable things in any investigation is to hear from an eyewitness - John was just that. He walked and talked with Jesus, and through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, what he witnessed has been recorded in this important book of the Bible. Many believe in one's search for the Lord, the Gospel of John is the best place to start. We have given out thousands of these to peace officers. I am certain that this booklet is carried by many officers in their duty bags etc. Besides containing the Gospel of John, the booklet has a simple straightforward message that speaks to peace officers about the importance of having a personal relationship with Jesus, in terms that every officer understands.

On July 7th, CBS again replenished our supply of An Eyewitness' Evidence by handing over 1,100 copies. We look forward to distributing this latest supply to peace officers across Canada.



GTA Director, Sgt. Jesse Weeks, receiving 1,100 copies of An Eyewitness' Evidence

We are most grateful to our friends at the Canadian Bible Society and their engagement with the First Responder Community. This year we will be participating with them as they add sponsorship to the First Responders Appreciation BBQs being held in the GTA in the fall (see page 28).



Letters to the Editor

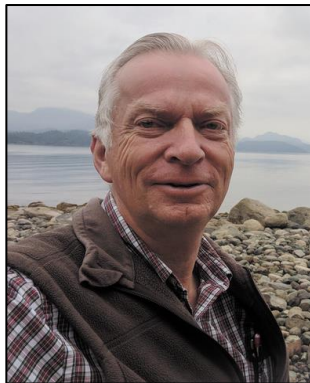
The Jesus Elevator



For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

Dear FCPO,

Thank-you for mentioning the grain elevator scripture in the last issue of the Peacemaker. I started to write my book in 2016 about the full sized grain elevator located at the south entrance to Edmonton (Ellerslie Corner) on which I used my calligraphy skills to paint a scripture verse. I have a hobby writing scripture in calligraphy.



Henry Vanderpyl

On Dec. 24th, 2016, I was driving home on Highway 3, about 5 Km east of Pincher Creek when I crested a small hill and saw a steam cloud. An accident had just happened in front of me and what I saw was the result of air bags deploying. A mini-van travelling west-bound went out of control on the winter roads and was tee-boned by an S.U.V.

I was first on scene, did a quick surveillance and noted seven people trapped in their vehicles. A Dad and Mom dead on scene, one of their daughters under the twisted wreckage of what was left of the mini-van (I could hear her but could not see her, she died later in hospital according to news reports). The two other daughters in the crumpled back end of the van survived with multiple surgeries and one of them ending up with a leg amputation. It was Christmas Eve, I was the first on scene, it didn't take long for others to stop and assist, but moments like that seem like an eternity.

I didn't sleep well after that. I would wake up thinking about the two injured girls who lost their parents and sister. So, I would pray for them, and I still pray for them whenever I think of them. Someday, maybe I will connect with them.

Three weeks later, my wife had a fever and persistent cough, the fever subsided, but she did not want to go to a doctor. I finally loaded her into our van to take her to the hospital but could only drive a couple blocks before I had to pull over and do CPR. She died a day and a half later from pneumonia-induced heart failure. It was 3 months before our 40th Anniversary.

I have a much better understanding and respect for what the first responders go through, on top of everyday life battles and incidences. Becoming a widow, I needed to re-focus my life and assist my special needs son along with my other 5 kids, to adjust to the new realities. I decided to complete the book that I had started. We all need to be reminded of what the scriptures say as we go through life. The calligraphy I did to paint the verse from Mark 8:36 on the grain elevator was seen by a lot of travelers.

So now I am a published author, and the 'first response' that I received asking me to tell about my book, was from the FCPO newsletter. I wonder how many police and other first responders drove by the "Jesus Elevator" in the 24 years that it stood at the south entrance to Edmonton – "Gateway to the North". Analyzing the traffic counts, during the 24 years that that grain elevator had a scripture verse painted on it, a total of 198 million vehicles drove by that elevator.

It was larger than any billboard (grain elevators are 32 ft. wide by 75 ft. high), and it had a larger-than-life message. Everybody faces eternity, it is just a matter of when. Check out my author website at www.henryvanderpyl.com

Henry Vanderpyl
Coaldale, Alberta

What if?

... Our Bible was just as important
as our cell phone?



What if?...

- ... we treated it like we couldn't live without it?
- ... when we forgot it, we went back to get it?
- ... we always had it close by in case of an emergency?
- ... we made sure our battery never ran low?
- ... we checked it throughout the day for new messages?

Jesus said: "...If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." – John 8:31b-32 (NKJV)

Henry Vanderpyl was born in the Netherlands and raised in Alberta. While still in his teens, he discovered that he loved practicing "Olde English" lettering. He created his own style over time and, after accepting Jesus in his life and being born again, he turned his talents to writing Bible verses and creating banners and posters to spread the Good News.

Above is a fine example of his work - all done by free-hand lettering!

Editor's Note

When I served with the RCMP in Alberta, starting in 1979, I would often drive by this prominent landmark in my travels to Edmonton. Albertans at the time were prospering greatly from a “boom” in the oil patch. Many seemed to “have it all” as far as the riches of this world and they were “having a good time”. Every time I saw the elevator it reminded me of what Jesus said:

And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:

And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?

And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.

And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.

But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

Luke 12:15-21

The elevator message always caused me to reflect on how you can have all the riches of the world, and everything the world has to offer, but one is a fool if they think that matters - death can come unexpectedly, and then none of that matters. ***For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?***

Dear FCPO,

I thought you may need this good news for the newsletter. Approximately a year or so ago I gave a lady from our church some literature on FCPO which she asked me for because her nephew who is a RCMP officer really needed some encouragement and needed Salvation. I received a message from her yesterday informing me that two weeks ago he gave his life to Jesus and is doing fine. Praise His Holy Name!

Herman Russell, Torbay, NL

Special Request

Dear FCPO,

We are wondering if you would mind letting the FCPO family know that we (my wife and I) are interested in having a family to family adoption. This can happen in Canada or the USA. It is through word of mouth when a mother or couple chooses to give their infant up for adoption to a couple that they know about already, without initially going through an adoption agency. The way it would look for us would be someone hearing about our story and being aware of a mother currently pregnant who is considering adoption and linking us together. This can begin a relationship where we explore if this could be the right match. We would then involve a family lawyer to make sure the process is done legally and ethically.

So we are asking, could you spread the word? Do you or any of your friends or family know of a mother or couple who are considering adoption but want a recommendation of a stable, loving couple? You are more than welcome to share this letter in confidence with anyone you believe would be helpful. We also know that there are way more adoption agencies in the USA than we are aware of or that currently work with Canada. But that doesn't mean that we can't begin a relationship with them, as our Canadian adoption agency we are working with is more than happy to reach out to any USA adoption agency of our choosing. So, if you know of a great adoption agency in the USA, please let us know!

We are also happy to share more personal information about who we are as a couple if there is anyone that would like to speak with us!

Blessings,

(A FCPO-Canada member)

Editor's note

Please pray for this request from this loving FCPO couple. If you wish to respond to their request, please let us know at fcpo.aapc@gmail.com and we will pass the message on to them for further contact.

Dear FCPO,

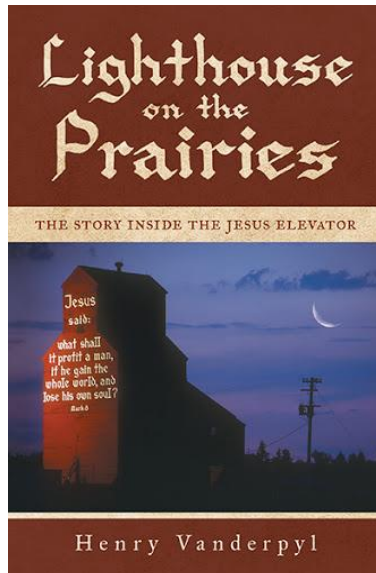
I enjoyed [Ron Mostrey's article on Ernie Hollands](#). I met Ernie in my early teens in Pembroke, Ontario, at Grant Bailey's store. He shared his faith with me and gave me some fish flies that he had tied - I still have them and they've never been used. I was a Christian and we remained in touch for many years. I went off to college and then around the country with Parks Canada and eventually lost touch - pre social media. My parents knew him and supported his ministry. We lived in

Aylmer, Quebec back then and my mother was from Pembroke, so we went there often. Thanks for bringing back fond memories.

I was introduced to the FCPO at the North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers' Association conference when it was hosted by the Ontario Conservation Officer's Association on their 100th anniversary in Ottawa. And I have been a member since. Thank you for carrying on.

Bob Reside, Onanole, MB

Recommended Reading



There is very little information about the Jesus Elevator on the internet. Somehow, even Wikipedia missed it. In this book, you are going to learn about Hartley Somerville, a prairie born-again farmer who purchased a 75 foot tall grain elevator in Ellerslie, Alberta, moved it onto his farmstead and, in 1965, repurposed it into the biggest scripture sign Canada has ever seen. Fourteen years later, with the help of a few volunteers, Henry Vanderpyl undertook the task of renovating the elevator with a new verse. For twenty-four years, its endless message steered travelers—far and wide—alongside the Queen Elizabeth II highway at the south entrance to Edmonton: the Gateway to the North. Sometimes,

God calls people to do big things. For Henry, big things done with calligraphy became his calling unto God.

LIGHTHOUSE ON THE PRAIRIES can be purchased as an eBook (\$6.99), Paperback (\$24.49) or Hardcover (\$32.99) <https://books.friesenpress.com/store/title/119734000093008785>



North-West Mounted Police in the late 1800s

Well here is something interesting!

In this 1964 CBC radio interview, 106-year-old William Henry Walden (born in 1857) looks back on some of his experiences as a NWMP scout during the late 1800s. The clip only lasts 5:34 minutes - well worth the listen!

[Click Here](#)

The Thin Blue Line

By: [Cst. Bruce Ewanyshyn, Brandon Police Service Chaplain](#)



Cst. Bruce Ewanyshyn



Symbolism is prevalent throughout society representing ideas, objects or relationships inhabiting every corner of our daily life. Some symbols represent a universal language warning people of potential hazards such as symbols on traffic signs, or markings on biohazard packages. The choice not to heed the warning of some symbols can lead to the inconvenience of a fine, or in extreme situations the death of a motorist and their family. These



symbols speak to regulations that are in place and enforced by laws enacted to promote the safety of all members of a society. These symbol types of marks or signs are not the focus of this devotion but serve the purpose of illustrating that when faced with one of these symbols, we can choose to observe it or ignore it with potential consequences.

Choice has a role in our decision whether to comprehend, reject or embrace the above noted symbols, or the type of symbolism that goes deeper than these universal signs and markings. Wikipedia defines a symbol as *"a mark, sign, or word ... understood as representing an idea, object, or relationship. Symbols allow people to go beyond what is known or seen by creating linkages between otherwise very different concepts and experiences"*. A key word in this definition is "understood", which suggests the choice of engaging in a personal pursuit to uncover the deeper meaning of a specific symbol to generate full understanding of the conceptual meaning behind the symbol. Our experiences can play an active role in our interpretation and understanding of the facts. An example is the red and black poppy representing Remembrance Day.



The poppy is the enduring symbol of remembrance of those who died in the First World War which we wear in honor of our dead soldiers. While Canadians wear it on Remembrance Day (Nov 11), Americans whose ancestors fought in the same war, wear it on Memorial Day in the month of May. The symbolism of the poppy is the same for Canadians and Americans, yet the interpretation of when it is most appropriate to wear differs between the two nations. Several years ago, there arose controversy regarding the modification of the center of the poppy. Those who adopted the Canadian flag pin version of the poppy felt they were honoring the Canadian soldiers who perished in the World War 1 while promoting a safe way to wear the poppy without being "stuck"

by the pin. However, some veterans who had close ties to the war took exception to the modification interpreting it as a defilement of the original symbolism of the poppy with the black felt center. The senior program officer with the Royal Canadian Legion Dominion Command in Ottawa, Bill Maxwell, was quoted, *“You know it is defacing our poppy, and our policy is such that the poppy should not be defaced”*. I understand both sides, and come Remembrance Day I make the choice whether to put more weight on honoring and being sensitive to those closely linked to the War, or choosing my own interpretation based upon my safety concerns and my method of acknowledging deceased Canadian soldiers.

I recall being in BPS Recruit Class in 1990 learning the basics of policing. One instructor presented the topic of police culture and made a reference to the “Thin Blue Line”. From the presentation I concluded that the culture of police officers was very different from the societal norm. The thin blue line represented a division between the general population of society and those sworn to uphold the laws of that society. Perhaps my interpretation was erroneous but within three years of experiencing general patrol attending countless domestic violence situations and being subjected to extreme prejudice for wearing the blue uniform, I concluded there was a thin blue line separating me from society and this justified my growing sense of dislike towards people in general. That was my interpretation of the symbolism behind the “Thin Blue Line” based upon what I understood and experienced. I carried that interpretation for years until a recent event prompted me to choose to dig deeper.

While working on developing a new logo for the Canadian Police Chaplain Association, a member of our CPCA Executive suggested that a straight line within the new logo could represent the “Thin Blue Line” if color coded correctly. My initial feeling was to rebuke the proposal of this chaplain based upon my interpretation of the symbol. I did not wish to promote division even if it meant honoring police officers through the symbolism. I was thinking of my own personal journey in which I had used the “Thin Blue Line” for over 17 years to hide behind as justification that police are different than the rest of society, and therefore misunderstood and ostracized by all non-police citizens. The chaplain who made the suggestion is not a police officer. Proudful, I reasoned in my mind that because of my vocation, I was better suited to speak to this issue. However, I paused and made a choice to research the origin of the “Thin Blue Line”.

The origin of the “Thin Blue Line” dates back to an 1854 battle during the Crimean War, in which a British infantry regiment, in red uniforms, stood its ground against a Russian cavalry charge.

Many police officers, and supporters who display the “Thin Blue Line” view it as a show of pride and respect for a dangerous profession that puts officers’ lives on the line. The idea behind the “Thin Blue Line” symbol on a Canadian flag is that police are the force that

stands between law and order and chaos safeguarding society against disorder. I have believed that interpretation but also felt there was more to the symbolism. My focus centered on the symbol representing solidarity which to me justified the existence of division between police and the community we serve.

The origin of the “Thin Blue Line” dates back to an 1854 battle during the Crimean War, in which a British infantry regiment, in red uniforms, stood its ground against a Russian cavalry charge. The

British formation became known as the Thin Red Line. It's unclear when this phrase was first adapted by police forces. In the 1950's, LA Police Chief Bill Parker mentioned it in speeches meant to promote a polished image of the LAPD to shift from a police force plagued by a history of corruption from within. In 1992, New York police Commissioner Richard Enright used the expression as part of a public relations effort. In these public campaigns, the thin blue line was meant to be viewed as the symbolism representing the commitment of police officers as a standing in line bravely protecting citizens from chaos.

The flag displaying the thin blue line emerged around 2014 as the Blue Lives Matter movement grew in the US. The movement was apparently intended as a response to Black Lives Matter and grew out of a series of instances across the nation in which police officers were killed in the line of duty. If I accept this origin at face value, I see how this symbolism can be used to promote solidarity within the police culture. The challenge we face today as officers within police agencies is to build and maintain trust within the communities we serve. This is an overwhelming concept for officers with boots on the ground who are lied to daily, assaulted, distrusted by a percentage of the public, all while placing their lives on the line to serve and protect that same public. Our frontline officers frequently respond to E911 calls of distress from drug traffickers or other violent criminals who have become themselves the victims of violent crimes. I've processed crime scenes gathering evidence to support charges against an offender who victimized a police hater. Police are called upon to investigate without bias crimes against persons who have assaulted them in the past. It's logical to desire to protect law abiding citizens but we must extend our protection to those who hate us simply because of the uniform we wear. All this pressure and stress to perform flawlessly without prejudice or favor while living within the same community as our offenders.

We can choose to allow our experiences to breed negativity, or we can embrace them as trials in life designed to build character and perseverance.

I wrote that for 17 years I embraced the solidarity I saw represented through a culture of the "Thin Blue Line". Now for the past 13 years, I've rejected any symbolism suggesting division between police and the community we

are sworn to protect. This included my negative thoughts towards adopting symbolism suggestive of the "Thin Blue Line" within our CPCA logo. After much reflection, I've come to the realization that I can once again embrace the "Thin Blue Line" symbol not as a crutch to justify ostracizing society or to promote differences, but to recognize there are differences and to use this understanding to motivate me to cultivate relationships within the community instead of pushing people away. We can choose to allow our experiences to breed negativity, or we can embrace them as trials in life designed to build character and perseverance. In James 1:2-4 we read this passage, *"Consider it nothing but joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you fall into various trials. Be assured that the testing of your faith [through experience] produces endurance [leading to spiritual maturity, and inner peace]. And let endurance have its perfect result and do a thorough work, so that you may be perfect and completely developed [in your faith], lacking in nothing"* (AMP). There is a thin blue line representative of police officers who stand in defense of the citizens to prevent or respond against lawlessness and chaos. As a Christian police officer, I can celebrate this symbolism without compromising my faith beliefs.

We need to be wise regarding pitfalls pertaining to the acceptance of any particular symbolism. I choose to live in compliance with the laws in Canada but I acknowledge that others who choose a different path will not comply. Divisiveness enters when I take that acknowledgement and turn it into condemnation towards the offender. In condemning someone, I create division internally which ironically connects me to the offender. In the past I'd stand behind the "Thin Blue Line" to justify that condemnation. A choice to condemn breeds division which does not nurture peace in my soul. My association in this way to the "Thin Blue Line" prompts me to look for the differences to justify my position creating an ever-increasing divisiveness between myself and others. I suggest that fear is a strong motivating factor to temporarily embrace certain forms of symbolism.

"Consider it nothing but joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you fall into various trials" James 1:2 amp

behind the cross believing the symbol could act as a powerful icon to expel evil as portrayed through Hollywood movies. Fear was my motivation. We tend to think hate is the opposite of love but I suggest fear is also an opposite of love. Police investigations of persons displaying violent behavior towards someone they confess to love based upon the fear of losing them is quite common. 1 John 4:18 reads, *"There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love"* NKJV. The cross is symbolic of the love our Heavenly Father has for all created beings. The religious leaders during the time of Jesus' life upon the earth used the cross to kill what they feared – someone they perceived could remove their influence over society and bankrupt their power and prestige through acts of love and kindness. God turned this around and made the cross a symbol of love in which He sacrificed His best through subjecting His son to unimaginable pain and suffering in order to restore our relationship with our Creator. It was the greatest love offering of all time!

"For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God" 1 Corinthians 1:18 NIV

cross with the crimes of man. Some Catholic priests have admitted to committing loathsome acts of sexual depravity against innocent children while hiding behind a cross hung from their neck. Do the ungodly acts of these men warrant public hatred towards the cross and the removal of the cross from our society? A motorist intentionally ignores a symbol of a twisty road on a sign post and makes the choice not to slow his vehicle resulting in a loss of control pitching the vehicle over a cliff and killing his entire family. Do we throw away the warning symbol? A child drinks from a bottle marked with a symbol of a skull with crossbones, convulses, and dies. Do we cease to affix a symbol on a poisonous container or do we take greater measures to educate people? For some of the public, the "Thin Blue Line" represents a symbol of separation between police and themselves. Do we discard the symbol or do we recognize what it stands for and continue to make efforts to remain connected with the public through positive interaction and relationships?

There was a time in my life as a child I chose to wear a cross not because of a relationship with God but out of fear based upon exposure to movies of blood sucking vampires. I hid

While we see that the symbolism of the "Thin Blue Line" has been misrepresented perhaps even intentionally over time, the cross has been subjected to unprecedented scrutiny and viewed by some with hatred through their association of the

As a child I hid behind a cross; fear motivated

As an adult, I rejected the cross for many years, not out of fear, but from a lack of godly wisdom and understanding of the true meaning of this symbol.

me. As an adult, I rejected the cross for many years, not out of fear, but from a lack of godly wisdom and understanding of the true meaning of this symbol. Over 2000 years ago, the Apostle Paul wrote of division within the culture of his day and of the lack of godly wisdom within man. He was addressing this issue when he wrote, *“For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God”* 1 Corinthians 1:18 NIV. Godly wisdom and understanding of a symbol can empower to lift a person’s spirit, and to build faith, courage, hope, and character. The opposite can hold true for wisdom and understanding that originates from man. As a police officer I used the “Thin Blue Line” symbol to justify division between myself and my community. As a Christian police officer who searches for godly wisdom and understanding, I do not hide behind the cross or use the “Thin Blue Line” to justify my fears. I embrace the cross as a symbol of my Heavenly Father’s love for

not only me, but for everyone in the world including those who curse God. God loves those who curse him for if it were not so, He would not have answered my prayer that came on the heels of a life of 40 years spent ignoring and cursing Him.

In the eyes of my understanding the “Thin Blue Line” represents the line of police standing shoulder to shoulder against lawlessness and chaos with the community behind them and the threat in front of them.

In the eyes of my understanding the “Thin Blue Line” represents the line of police standing shoulder to shoulder against lawlessness and chaos with the community behind them and the threat in front of them. I choose to look at it from the perspective that law abiding citizens are on the same side of the line as we who are sworn to serve and protect them – nothing more, nothing less.

Symbols do not define who we are; however, they can be important markers to assist us in making choices and their limitations lie in our lack of comprehension of what they truly represent.



Trust and Obey - through your Service



S/Sgt. Steve Rowe

It has been approximately 18 months since Canada was impacted by COVID-19. Almost every news program continues to comment on this. Cv19 is like the wind. You can't see it but only its affects. Personally I have not allowed any fear to come into my life and especially cv19. Policing has also been affected. As peace officers you have been called to enforce by laws surrounding masks, social distancing etc.

I want to encourage you my brother and sister members of the FCPO. Isaiah 41:10 reminds us to "fear not". Be encouraged is mentioned 74 times in the Bible. Each of us are an answer to someone's prayer. Even an encouraging word can bring hope to others.

I cannot remember when I joined the FCPO, but I am always am reminded of our motto. To serve peace officers and peace officer families, as well as the community they serve. What a calling to "SERVE". I thank the Lord for each one of you who have been called to "SERVE".

Each of us have a testimony on how the Lord came into our lives. We had to trust and obey the calling, and to "SERVE Him". What an honor that is and has been. Now as we serve Jesus we get to reflect his goodness in our homes, community, neighbourhood and the service you "SERVE" in.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of others. Be encouraged for your labour is not in vain. Thank you for being a vital part of the FCPO and for TRUSTING AND OBEYING .

God bless,

Steve Rowe

In Memorium [Jeffery](#) and [Shelby](#)



Cst. Jeffery Northrop
End of Watch:
July 1. 2021



Cst. Shelby Patton
End of Watch:
June 12. 2021

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From our Vault

Articles from [past Peacemakers](#) make for a great second read. And for many of you - the first read. They are timeless. We opened the vault for this issue, and hope you will be blessed again by this contribution.

Sacrificing Yourself

By: Bonnie Reilly (Former RCMP member)

This article is reproduced from our Peacemaker archives: [Spring, 1996 issue](#)

In the last issue I wrote about not having to prove yourself as a peace officer just because you are a woman. There are also ways to avoid sacrificing yourself; or worse, losing yourself, professionally and ultimately, personally.

When policing becomes the centre of your identity, this can easily happen. As in any profession, when we allow our work to define who we are, we begin to lose perspective when it comes to self-worth.

An American writer and pediatrician by the name of Sally Shaywitz says, "To be somebody a woman does not have to be more like a man, but has to be more of a woman." I think there is a lot of wisdom in that statement. Unfortunately, we as women don't necessarily buy into that. In the 1970's when women's liberation was making a big impact in our society, women everywhere as well as the men they worked for, determined that to succeed women had to purchase pinstripe "power suits" and do business like men.

But in September of 1995, Fortune magazine surveyed women executives in mid life. They were surprised to find that many career women have become weary of the male dominated game and now seek to do business

more on their own terms. Peace keeping professions are no exception.

So, how does a female peace officer become more of a woman? How does she protect and define her self worth?

Knowing your limitations is one way. As a Christian, a basic belief in God and His son Jesus, helps me to understand who I am as a woman, no matter what profession I am in. The Bible clearly defines God's intent when He created the feminine counterpart to man, called woman. Along with that comes certain limitations, just as men have limitations.

Physical limitations are an obvious case in point. I am surprised at female officers who insist that they enjoy a good fight as much as their male counterparts. I know there are times a female member can be ineffective in a scuffle purely because of size and build. Conversely, I also know that male members can be ineffective in domestics or dealing with rape victims, solely because of their gender. There is nothing wrong with men and women complementing each other. Somewhere along the line we have missed that.

When I was serving in the RCMP I was determined never to cry in front of my male peers. That hurt only me. I spent so many years stuffing my emotions deep down, I paid a big price for it later in life.

To Become more of a woman, allow your feminine nature and characteristics to be expressed.

When you take off that uniform, but especially while you're in it, be comfortable with your identity as a woman. Adopting masculine characteristics does not make you a better police officer or a stronger woman. It simply makes you a woman trying to be like a man. Ironically, men don't respect that attitude or posture in a woman. Ask one and see what his response is!

You don't have to sacrifice who you are as a woman to be a peace officer.

Remember, God didn't rest until after He created woman (Gen. 1:27-31). It was only then that God "saw all that He made and it was very good", Until woman was created

something was missing. View yourself as part of the completion to God's creation, rather than an afterthought. It makes all the difference to how you view your femininity.



Editor's note

Bonnie was a member of the RCMP between 1977 and 1987. She returned to post-secondary education later in life, earning a Ph.D. in Canadian history from Simon Fraser University in June 2014. She has several

publications to her credit, including [SILENCED - The Untold Story of the Fight for Equality in the RCMP](#) and articles for the *Journal of the Canadian Historical Association* and *Canada's History Magazine*. **She continues to serve the Lord!**
www.bonniereilyschmidt.com



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United Way

REMINDER

We do not receive any direct funding from the United Way.

However, for those who will be participating in your local workplace United Way campaign this fall, please remember your charitable donation can be specifically designated to FCPO – Canada by using our registered charity number on the form (120365804 RR0001) in part B or C (depending on if you are a Federal, Provincial, or Municipal employee).

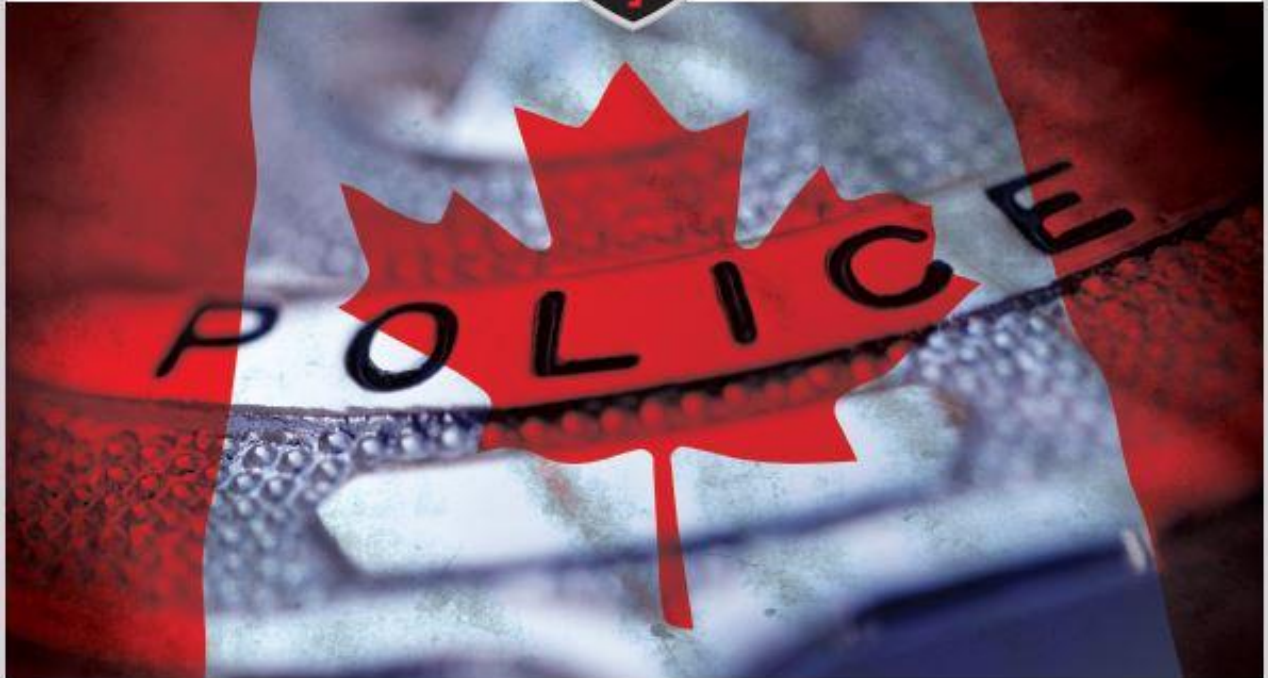
Other ways to donate, including online donations can be found on our [website](#). When you [donate online](#) you will be issued a tax receipt at that time.

Thank you for your financial support for this unique ministry.

NOV. 7-8, 2021



KANANASKIS VILLAGE, AB



CANADIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT RETREAT

KNOWING THE GOD WHO PROTECTS AND SERVES

In appreciation for your service, the Billy Graham Rapid Response Team invites you—and your spouse—to the Canadian Law Enforcement Retreat. Come and be encouraged by expert speakers who will discuss challenges faced by officers' families, share Biblical insights, and offer valuable instruction on surviving and thriving in the law enforcement world.

Check-in begins Sunday, Nov. 7 at 3:00 p.m. | Sessions begin with supper at 5:45 p.m.

Retreat ends Monday, Nov. 8 at 4:00 p.m.

Location: *Pomeroy Kananaskis Mountain Lodge*
1 Centennial Dr., Kananaskis Village, AB T0L 2H0

\$200/individual

\$225/couple

(cost includes lodging, food, sessions, and materials)

For more information, visit BillyGraham.ca/CLER to register today.



"HE GUARDS THE PATHS OF THE JUST AND PROTECTS THOSE WHO ARE FAITHFUL TO HIM." —PROVERBS 2:8, NLT

[Click here](#)



CALLIN' POLICE ALL FIRE EMT

FIRST RESPONDERS APPRECIATION BBQS

**September 25 2021
12:30 pm - 7 pm**

**Peel Police 11 Division - 3030 Erin Mills Parkway, Mississauga ON
Peel Police 12 Division - 4600 Dixie Road, Mississauga ON
Peel Police 21 Division - 10 Peel Centre Drive, Brampton ON
Peel Police 22 Division - 7750 Hurontario Street, Brampton ON**

1st Responders BBQ website

<https://www.1strespondersbbq.org/>

THE HOUSE OF SERVE & PROTECT



STANDING TOGETHER SHOUTING WITH ONE VOICE

**A MESSAGE OF HOPE AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOR AMERICA'S LAW ENFORCEMENT HEROES
FROM SERVE & PROTECT AND OUR COLLEAGUES SERVING FAMILIES AND SAVING LIVES.**

POLICE LIVES MATTER

We say in one accord, God bless each man and woman in law enforcement. Thank you for your honorable service and noble sacrifice, your dedication to your community and family, and unwavering integrity and devotion to America. Whether you serve with federal, state, county, or city law enforcement, we stand with you all. Always. All ways.



www.serveproptect.org

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