



FCPO - CANADA

The Peacemaker



February, 2019

From the President's Desk



Get your Bible in hand! Our good friend, [MC Williams](#), has provided us with a great thought-provoking article where he explores PTSD from a biblical perspective. I encourage our readers to share that article with any officer who has experienced PTSD. Also, be sure to click on the helpful links in the article.

If you have visited our [home page](#) lately, you will note we are featuring a financial update for our Fredericton initiative. We are tracking the progress of our funding need for this special initiative. Special thanks to the good folks from Pinehurst, Nova Scotia for their exceptional help! [We still need to raise some more funds for this initiative](#).

Our treasurer has provided a good overview of our [financial accountability](#). As Andrew explains, we are indeed a very lean charity, and every dollar is put to very good use. I know there are a ton of good causes out there, but please help us as you are able.



I hope you will like our new feature "From our Vault", where we republish an article from years gone by. Some may remember the article, but for others, it's all new. What's not new, is how officers are able to testify about how God has used them in their career. Although I enjoy opening the vault, it's always good to hear what's going on today, and as such, I encourage our readers to submit an article for [your Peacemaker](#). Just send it to us at: fcpo.aapc@gmail.com

God bless,

Ron

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Meekness

By: Dino Doria, Ontario Director



Sgt. Dino Doria (Rtd.)

Many believe that Meekness is Weakness, these two words are often misinterpreted. First Responders are often faced with difficult situations where they can't show weakness. When we rely on our own strength we discover how fragile it can be. Masking our weakness in our own strength often leads to denial and hardship. What we don't realize is that the word "Meekness" is a Powerful trait when we are guided and strengthened by the Holy Spirit.

When we read His Word, the Holy Spirit strengthens us, and gives us that stable anchor and foundation that no matter what we see as First Responders we are not weak but meek because we are an extension of His Love and His Strength, and His Restraint as we serve others.

In reality we are all "First Responders" in a needy world. The real question is do we respond in our strength or do we surrender all to the God who created us? Galatians 5:22-23 says that the Holy Spirit works in us to be more like Christ (Ephesians 4:14-16), and part of the fruit, or results, of that work is gentleness. Gentleness, also translated "meekness," does not mean weakness. Rather, it involves humility and thankfulness toward God, and polite, restrained behavior toward others. The opposites of gentleness are anger, a desire for revenge, and self-aggrandizement.

**TO BE GENTLE IS TO RECOGNIZE
THAT GOD'S WAYS AND THOUGHTS
ARE HIGH ABOVE OUR OWN**

God wants us to give Him control of our lives. Relying on our own logic, we have no impetus to submit to God's leadership. With the wisdom given to us by the Holy Spirit, however, we begin to see why we should completely submit to God as Lord of our lives. Human

power under human control is a half-broken weapon in the hands of a child. But gentleness places our strength under God's guidance; it is a powerful tool for God's kingdom. Every person is powerful. We can speak words that influence others; we can act in ways that help or hurt; and we can choose what influences will inform our words and actions.

Gentleness constrains and channels that power. To be gentle is to recognize that God's ways and thoughts are high above our own (Isaiah 55:9). Jesus exhibited all of the above traits when he came to save a dying world set in their ways. Today isn't any different the Holy Spirit continues to exhibit love, and gentleness. His Holy Spirit transforms us day by day to be more like Him. Each day He points out something in our lives that asks us to surrender and replace it with Meekness. In His strength & power we are transformed to be His First Responders.

Join Today!

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. **Membership is free! Members receive this quarterly newsletter.**

Join online at: www.fcpocanada.com

God's Cure for PTSD and Police Suicide

- A Biblical Approach -

By: Police Lt. (Ret.) & Chaplain M.C. Williams



The issue of **PTSD** (or, as I prefer, simply **PTS** - **Post Traumatic Stress**) is in fact real, but it is also important that we deal with it from both a historical and Biblical perspective (the "Cure" is found in the latter).

First off, let's stop calling it a "disorder." Injury or condition? OK. Stress? Well absolutely (stress can be both positive and negative -- although in this case it is usually the latter). Folks, PTS is not new, but the label we've given it is. Yes, for those of us who have been in "combat" - be it in the military and/or the very real, daily battles we deal with in law enforcement - stress is in fact an issue.

Historically, what we call PTSD today is part of what the military community called "shell shock," "battle fatigue" and other monikers. On the law enforcement side (and speaking from more than three decades in uniform), we've only recently started to address an issue that I believe has more to do with the "[War on Cops](#)" than it does with what we do and see in the field. That said, we deal with trauma and yes, evil, on a daily basis and yes, those things can and do cause stress that can and does take a toll on us.

Unfortunately, what often passes for secular treatment (be it medical/psychiatric or psychological) often involves a horrific cocktail

of prescribed drugs and a myriad of psychological treatment modalities that may, at best, lead more to coping than an actual cure (or for which the "cure" is worse than the problem). While I am by no means suggesting that there is not a place for legitimate medical intervention (but not self-medicating with alcohol and drugs), I am here to suggest that there is in fact a **CURE** (versus ongoing, never ending "treatment") for what ails us. Let's dig in!

In order for us to properly view PTS and the related issues of police (1 or more a day) and military (perhaps 20 or more per day) suicide from a Biblical (God's) perspective, we need to remember that we do not live in just a physical world. On the contrary, there is also an unseen spiritual world as well.

God tells us in His Word, the Bible, that a very real devil (Satan) has been given dominion over the Earth for a time (**Ephesians 2:2**). In fact, we see a powerful example of this in Jesus' forty days in the desert (**Matthew 4:1-11**). The devil promised Jesus all the kingdoms of the world if He would bow down and worship him.

But while God, because of sin, has given Satan great power, he has **NOT** been given total control. For example, we see in the first chapter of the **Book of Job** that the devil needed to obtain God's permission to test Job (**Job 1:12**).

Understand that Satan's main goal is to destroy us. One of his "fraud schemes" is to keep our eyes focused on the physical world, while leading us to think the solutions to our problems can only be found in the physical/secular realm (see **2 Corinthians 4:1**).

God designed us to live in constant companionship with Him while in a physical world. But after the fall (sin), our relationship with God was severed, leaving us spiritually

dead (**Ephesians 2:1**). We lost our spiritual discernment. Without Christ, we can only live in a physical world with very real trauma combined with sin-affected and broken bodies. We also have hard hearts (**Ezekiel 36:26**) and have turned away from God (**Romans 3:11-12**).

Even the genuine, born again believer will still sin and face temptation. Accordingly, we must stay on constant alert (and constantly wear our [spiritual body armor](#)) against the devil's schemes both physically and spiritually: *"For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ."* (2 **Corinthians 10:3-5** ESV)

A "stronghold" is a tool of the devil to quench the power of the Holy Spirit (**1 Thessalonians 5:19**). After we come to a saving, born again faith in Christ (**John 3:1-21**), the [Holy Spirit resides within us](#), and it is the Spirit who teaches, convicts, and empowers us. Ultimately then, the "Cure" for what ails us is found in Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit and His Word, the Bible. With that, let's discuss God's biblical "prescription" (forgive me if I get a little deep here):

Post traumatic stress issues develop in some people following a traumatic event or series of events. The event, or "stressor," could be exposure to death or threatened death, actual or threatened serious injury, actual or threatened violence, and the very real evil we see on a daily basis. The sufferer may be directly exposed, indirectly exposed through a family member or close friend experiencing the event, or repeatedly exposure through his or her work (such as with first responders, police officers, firemen, military personnel, social workers, etc.). Common trauma experiences include military combat, police use of force, car accidents, homicides, natural disasters, child/domestic abuse, sexual assault and mass violence. After such an event(s), even the most


hardened warrior may show some signs of stress such as feeling on edge, anxiety, fear, anger, feelings of depression, a sense of detachment, desire to avoid trauma-related reminders, flashbacks, difficulty sleeping, headaches, changes in appetite, irritability, self-blame, "survivor's guilt," or a sense of numbness. For most of us, these reactions lessen and eventually subside with time.

On the other hand, those who develop PTS issues typically have persistent symptoms lasting for more than one month. Other symptoms for PTS sufferers include intrusive re-experience of the trauma through recurrent, involuntary memories, nightmares, or dissociation; avoidance of trauma-related thoughts or feelings, external reminders; negative changes in thoughts or behavior (including an inability to recall details related to the trauma), persistent negative beliefs about oneself or the world, loss of interest, feelings of alienation, or inability to express positive emotions; and changes in arousal or reactivity such as irritability, aggression, hyper vigilance, reckless behavior, sleep disturbances and yes, thoughts of suicide. For those suffering from PTS-related issues, these symptoms can cause significant impairment in work, marriage, family and social functioning. The United States National Center for PTSD estimates there are 5.2 million adults suffering from PTS-related issues in any given year.

It is also important to understand that PTS issues resulting from participation in combat and law enforcement duty seem to be unique from other forms of PTSD.

It is also important to understand that PTS issues resulting from participation in combat and law enforcement duty seem to be unique from other forms of PTSD. In combat situations, military personnel are often both victim and aggressor, a dynamic which adds complexities to the issue. Often those with combat-specific PTS problems will exhibit depression, extreme feelings of guilt, hyper-vigilance, and low self-esteem. It

can be particularly difficult for combat veterans and law enforcement personnel to process through the atrocities we have witnessed, come to a place of acceptance over the things we've been tasked to do, and readjust to non-combat/non-law enforcement (off duty) living. For some Christian military/police personnel, it can be especially difficult to accept taking the life of another, even in the line of duty (especially when you add what we've been dealing with in the "[war on cops](#)" and from those who seek to turn us from the servant-warriors God has called us to be into some kind of emasculated "guardian". Many times, Christian combat veterans and police officers who lack a proper understanding of Scripture and the God we serve (**Exodus 15:3**) are tempted to feel unwarranted guilt over the things we've seen and done in the performance of our God-ordained duties (**Romans 13:1-4**).



Those who suffer from PTS issues should recognize that treatment and the cure will take time, and that is okay.

Regardless of the circumstances, there is hope and yes, a CURE that is found first and foremost in a life-saving/life-changing personal relationship with the ultimate servant-warrior, Jesus Christ.

David understood combat stress. He wrote, *"From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint; lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the foe"* (**Psalms 61:2-3 NIV**). It is our responsibility to exercise faith in God, to stay in the Word, to cry out to Him in prayer, and to maintain fellowship with other believers (and why I continue to stress the importance of iron sharpens iron fellowship with other officers through our FCPO chapters and police Bible study groups). We are to go to God in our distress and make use of the resources He provides.

Those who suffer from PTS issues should recognize that treatment and the cure will take time, and that is okay. Some have compared this to Paul's "*thorn in the flesh*" (**2 Corinthians 12:7-10**). God does offer healing, but in the way and the timing He sees fit. In the meantime, He gives sufficient grace to bear up under hardships. Thorns are painful, and PTS can certainly result in some big, painful thorns (something our Lord was all-too-aware of - **Matthew 27:29**). But we can continue [to stand](#), and go to God as we remind ourselves of His faithfulness (**Lamentations 3:1 Corinthians 1:4-9**).

Truth is a key component to coping with or overcoming PTS-related problems. Reminding oneself that God loves, forgives, and values His people is extremely important. Knowing who God says we are and defining ourselves by His standards rather than by what we have done or what has been done to us is vital. We need not identify as either victim or perpetrator. In God, we can identify as His beloved children (**Romans 8:14-17; Ephesians 1:3-6; 1 John 3:1-3**), sealed in the Holy Spirit (**Ephesians 1:13-14**), forgiven and redeemed (**Romans 5; Ephesians 1:7-10; 1 John 1:8-9**) and supernaturally empowered (**Psalms 144:1-2, Romans 13:1-4**).

Losing a close friend, family member or colleague is incredibly difficult, and many of us can feel unworthy of being spared. But those with "survivor's guilt" and yes, anger, must stand on the truth of God's sovereignty, love (**John 3:16-18**) and unique purpose for everyone's life even if there are many who reject Him and His plan. Replacing the lie that we are unworthy to have lived with the truth that God loves us, has a plan for us and values our days on earth is key (**Ephesians 2:10; 5:15-16**).

Speaking truth about practical things is also important. Often, those dealing with PTS will feel endangered when the situation does not warrant it. Lean in on God and His Word (memorizing Scripture, for example) in these times. Remember also that PTS is not an excuse for bad behavior. Likely, PTS will contribute to

some negative thought and behavior patterns. This is understandable, but it should be resisted in the power of the Holy Spirit (so important that we not allow the enemy to gain a foothold against our families, marriages or on "the job").

Having a community of support who offers grace and forgiveness and speaks truth in love is incredibly important. And it is vital that the community who supports the sufferer of PTSD is also receiving support. Remaining connected to one's local church (and [FCPO chapter](#) or similar Christian officer fellowship) is not "optional," nor is our regular one-on-one time with God through prayer and the study of His Word.

Self-care (we **must** exercise/train and seek to eat healthy, get decent sleep [a challenge for us in law enforcement], etc.) and doing things that are relaxing and refreshing (getting away from the job and not going overboard with things like overtime and alcohol consumption) are also an incredibly important part of God's prescription.

PTS is not something to ignore but rather something to turn over to God and actively engage Him with.

PTS is not something to ignore but rather something to turn over to God and actively engage Him with. We are invited to approach God boldly and to pour out our hearts to Him (**Hebrews 4:14-16**). We are assured that nothing can separate us from His love (**Romans 8:35-38**).

God can restore (cure) the mental health, marriages, careers, etc. of the PTS sufferer. In the end, God can even use the situation for His glory. *"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ"* (**2 Corinthians 1:3-5 NIV**).

In closing, I must also encourage you to fully embrace our God-ordained, servant-warrior calling without sacrificing "balance" or the proper order of things: **God, family/marriage, work, and ministry**. Don't let anyone tell you otherwise!

Finally, I have a plethora of [PTSD/suicide prevention resources](#) on my website that I encourage you to take advantage of. Know also that I'm here if you need to talk or pray - just reach out! At the same time, understand that if you do not truly know Christ as Lord and Savior, you are in fact all-but-powerless to overcome the enemy and the junk he throws at us - including PTS issues.

Other questions? Need prayer? Here to serve - [contact me](#)!

MC
Centurion Law Enforcement Ministry



[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.



Letters to the Editor

Dear FCPO,

I am just wanting to send along a note of appreciation to members of the Fellowship. Our members of the Fredericton Police Force who attended the recent [National Law Enforcement Retreat](#) in Asheville NC, were renewed in the strength and presence of our Lord and Savior through our fellow police brothers and sisters. To say we have been struggling in grief after the loss of our fallen sister and brother (Cst. Sara Burns and Cst. Robb Costello), is an understatement.

You may never know fully the impact of your generosity and what sending our members to this retreat has meant to us. Hearing the words of hope and encouragement during the retreat has impacted us all, including our spouses. We will continue to heal and “Rise” in the light of the Lord as He knows our struggle and gives us comfort. Once again, Thank You, we appreciate everything.

God Bless,

Cst. Steven Cliff
Fredericton Police Force

Dear FCPO,

I just wanted to thank you for sending me a copy of the “Promises for Peace Officers” book. It has truly been a blessing to me. I have turned to this on numerous occasions and have found comfort and direction in God’s Word each time. It is amazing how sometimes just reminding ourselves of these promises can bring us comfort and peace. It is great to have this collection to rely on.

Cst. Ted Munro
RCMP, Bridgewater, NS

FCPO in Manitoba



Sgt. John Siderius

By: Sgt. John Siderius, Manitoba Provincial Representative

I just want to start by saying that I am extremely honored and humbled to take on the role as the Provincial Representative for FCPO in Manitoba. As we all know, the role of FCPO and its support of Peace Officer across Canada is an extremely valuable one.

It is my belief that it has been my faith that has brought me safely here thus far. From as far back as I can remember, I always had a desire to become a Police Officer. I can also say that despite all that

we witness and experience as officers that I have had a growing appreciation of how God cares for all of us corporately and individually.

Having joined the service as a Christian, admittedly I had kept that mostly to myself. But several years ago the verses of Mathew 5: 14-16 really struck a chord with me:

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven” Mathew 5: 14-16 ESV

It was then in 2012, that I applied and was accepted as one of the Chaplains for the Winnipeg Police Service. This has been a very humbling experience in being not only able to serve my community as a police officer, but also to serve those who serve our community by supporting the WPS membership.

I can truly say that I have enjoyed the past 29 years serving in the Winnipeg Police Service and look forward to more years ahead.

Editor’s note: we are blessed to have John as our Manitoba Rep. Thank you John for agreeing to be our representative in Manitoba!

Our Finances

By: Insp. Andrew Cowan, Treasurer



As the treasurer, I thought it would be a good idea to start off the year by telling you about our finances.

First and foremost, we thank God for always meeting our financial needs.

What are our expenses?

Our expenses are usually for initiatives, like our recent [Fredericton initiative](#), or printing/mailing costs (e.g.

Promises for Peace Officers). From time to time, board members travel to promote the goals of FCPO. They claim their travel expenses. All those expenses are self-funded. In other words, if a board member travels, they donate at least the amount of their claim back to FCPO.

Our expenses and revenues are reported to the [CRA](#). A summary of our annual return can be found in their [charities data base](#). For example, in our latest reported year (2017) our revenues were \$14,150 and our expenses were \$15,810. On our website under the “About Us” tab, you can find our [Financial Accountability section](#) where we provide our accountant’s

[Statement of Financial Position.](#)

Where do we get our funding?

We rely 100% on donations. In the past, we tried an annual membership fee. Some think that would be our best way to ensure adequate ongoing funding. We have almost 700 members, thus, if each gave say \$5 / month - that would be a good source of committed funding. However, we found paid membership was too difficult and time-consuming for us to administer. So, we went to a “hope/pray” that donations come in”. We are very grateful for all who feel led to support this ministry.

Why donate to FCPO?

The more funding we have, the more we can do to advance the Gospel and support the peace officer community in Canada.

We have four strategic priorities:

1. Support Christian Officers and Their Families;
2. Reach Out To Unserved Officers and Their Families;
3. Chapter Development and Support;
4. Network and Outreach to the Broader Christian Faith Community.

We have very little overhead - everyone is a volunteer. We are a very lean charity, and donations all go direct to support our efforts to fulfill our mission.

We ask that you consider financially supporting this ministry. You can be assured that your contribution will be effectively and efficiently used, and accounted for.

How to Donate

Many of our donors [donate online](#) and thus tax receipts are issued immediately by CanadaHelps.org.

We do not get any general support from the United Way, however one can donate to us via United Way by

designating FCPO-Canada as the donation recipient in Part B or C of their form, using our CRA registered charity number: 120365804RR0001.

Cheques made out to: *Fellowship of Christian Peace Officers - Canada* are also welcome, and can be sent to our mailing address: 327 Rideau Street, Suite 234, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 1G7.

Tax receipts are issued at year's end for all donations of \$20 or more.

For 2019, with your financial support, we look forward to continuing to advance the impact of FCPO in Canada.

Thank you,

Andrew



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.

An Encouraging Word from Newfoundland

By: Cst. Glenn Moores, Royal Newfoundland Constabulary

This article is reproduced from our Peacemaker [archives](#): 1987 – March – April issue

I am excited to be writing the "Peacemaker" for the first time. I have been waiting for this opportunity over 10 months, and I feel the Holy Spirit wants me to present this now.

I am employed as a police officer with the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary for 7 years. Donna, my wife, and my two daughters, Melissa (5) and Amanda (3), love the Lord very much. I thank the

Lord for providing me with such a beautiful family. I was a Christian in High School but, like so many other Christians, decided to do what I wanted and not what the Lord had planned for me. In 1980, I was accepted for the police force.

On my third year (1983) of my job, I was charged internally. For approximately the next 5 months, I was depressed, discouraged, and hurt that I was charged.

In October of the same year, I was permitted to attend a course in Nova Scotia. During the two weeks, I met a fellow officer on the job who knew Jesus as Lord and Saviour. He also worked with the Constabulary. One morning, while I was singing Christian songs in the shower, my friend, Lloyd, came along and heard me singing. He asked me how I learned the songs and I told him that I used to be a Christian.

For the next two weeks Lloyd and I began a close friendship. He suggested to me that I should get to know the Lord again. With my problems back at work, I didn't consider it.

I arrived home on Friday after two weeks of learning about the Borkenstein breathalyzer. Two days later on Sunday morning I was out doing patrol and I met a former High School teacher, Harold Andrews. Harold invited me to the Worship Centre that night. Reluctantly, I accepted. I enjoyed the meeting at church but I didn't accept the Lord, knowing that God had directed Harold to keep at me. Harold and I went out to McDonald's after church for a snack. Then we went back to the church parking lot to get my car. We talked again about accepting the Lord, and finally in that car on October 30th, 1983, I accepted the Lord--a decision I have not regretted!

Four days later, on my forth visit for my hearing on internal charges, I was confident that the Lord would take care of the situation. Wouldn't you know it, the charges were dropped! I knew I was innocent, and God knew it also.

During the last 3 years, I have had my ups and downs, but I love the Lord even more for guiding my family and myself through them all!



Glenn retired from the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary in 2004. Since then he has served the community as a member of various committees and performs many other volunteer activities. Some say he looks remarkably similar to a Santa who visits sick children in hospital in St. John's at Christmas time!

Glenn continues to serve his Lord and Saviour!

Last June I had the privilege of meeting Dick and Joan Hayward and Jack and Ruth Foster. Through Gene Hillier (RCMP, Grand Falls, Nfld.) I was introduced to the FCPO. I assisted Cst. Hillier in setting up a banquet for the FCPO and this excited me knowing that in this way I can help the Lord by reaching out to other peace officers to come to know Jesus. During that special weekend in June, Jack and Ruth stayed in my home, and I loved it.

There is no Chapter of the FCPO in Newfoundland at all. Cst. Hillier of Grand Falls has had a couple of meetings. In St. John's, I, along with Cst. Todd Flynn and Lieut. Ralph Pitcher (both from the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary), was able to have a meeting on Friday, Feb. 20/87. Six peace officers attended the meeting. It was decided that letters would be sent out to other Christian peace officers to attend a meeting on March 31st. At this time we will, I pray, form the first Chapter of the FCPO in Newfoundland. Praise the Lord!

Romans 10:11 says, "Whomever believes in Him will not be disappointed" I know I am not.

In closing, I just wish to say, please give us your prayers to form this Chapter.

God bless you all and I know God will direct.

Yours in Christ,

Glenn Moores, Cst.
Royal Newfoundland Constabulary



Editor's Note: Following our 2018 national conference in St. John's, we have seen a significant increase in membership in Newfoundland & Labrador. Stand by – chapter on the way!

Small Community – Big Heart!

By: Ron Seney, Atlantic Director



Ron Seney thanks all for a great evening and their generosity

Pinehurst, Nova Scotia is a small rural community nestled in the drumlin hills of the [LaHave River](#) valley. Besides a thriving rural church, and an active community hall society supported by the area Lion's Club, it is comprised of a few houses and rural businesses associated with the forest industry. The people in the community, in keeping with the Bible based teaching of the parable of the Good Samaritan, support several Christian initiatives. They 'walk the walk' and their support of our [Fredericton initiative](#) exceeded what one would hope to achieve from much larger communities. With the assistance of 6 volunteers to run the Gospel music show; five of the 'best of

the best' Gospel music groups from throughout South Shore Nova Scotia and literally a handful of local residents, four hundred dollars was raised. Coupled with the sacrificial donation from the congregation of the Springfield United Baptist Church, the Atlantic Region has supported the Fredericton initiative to the tune of ~ 10% of our expenses for this initiative.

We are indeed blessed to have such strong financial assistance from this caring community which understands the value of our efforts to support those who protect and serve in Canada.



Mervin & Tracy Mailman



Riverside Ramblers



South Wind



Reg & Odette Tanner



Grand finale (including Occasional Harmony)

“Us” and “Them”

By: Ronald Mostrey, President, FCPO - Canada



C/Supt. Ronald Mostrey (Rtd.)

In my policing career I categorized people into two categories: “Daytime People” and “Nighttime People”. The daytime people in general, were sober, at work, at school, going about commerce, etc. For the most part, they were the “good people”. They did not cause much trouble.

Then there was the nighttime people. It seemed like 90% of those were not sober, or at least had been drinking to the point where they were causing some sort of trouble.

In my entire career, I can only recall going to one family fight/spousal assault where at least one of the parties had not been drinking.

Hardly any nighttime serious or fatal collision I attended involved a party who had not been drinking. In fact, name any nighttime crime, and alcohol or other drugs were pretty well always involved. Folks breaking into places looking for alcohol or for something to steal to get alcohol or drugs, or people drinking to the point where they got their nerve up to go do crimes. Bar closing-time was always well-known. The calls would start coming in: fights, collisions, spousal assaults, and just general stupidity! Not to say that I never saw “stupidity” during the daytime, but stupidity reined in the night! Friday and Saturday night shifts were particularly

filled with prime examples of stupidity and man’s inhumanity to man. Thus it was – daytime people and nighttime people.

Often it seemed like it was us, and them

Often it seemed like it was “us” (the police), and “them” (the general public). We think of ourselves as the “thin blue line” fighting against evil and protecting the good from the evil (and often protecting the “stupid” from themselves). God bless all who work in corrections - they deal with nighttime people 100% of the time!

So, as Christian officers, what is one to think of all this reality? Well, that’s a tough question. We see so much of evil and wrongdoing, that it does taint us to a certain degree.

To help keep me grounded and away from the prevalent police culture of “us and them”, enclosed in my badge wallet, I always carried a copy of the famous quote from [Sir Robert Peel](#):

“The police are the public and the public are the police; the police being only members of the public who are paid to give full time attention to duties which are incumbent on every citizen in the interests of community welfare and existence”.

That is a good quote to never forget. Furthermore, as Christians, when dealing with the public we need to remember they are all souls. Many are lost - all are capable of receiving God’s love and finding a [personal relationship with Jesus Christ](#). That goes for Baldy the Drunk, Mable the Pain in the Neck, Jeannine the Chronic Complainer, and Luc the Drug Dealer. It’s true - they are all souls. In law enforcement we have a job to do, and as we know - it is a God ordained job (Romans 13). Catch the bad guys and hope they receive justice - but in the process, stay safe and don’t get tainted. In reality, there is no “us and them” – there are just fellow human beings.