

Sharing Sad News and the Good News

I am a pastor and a volunteer chaplain with the police department in my town. As a chaplain I have opportunities to help people in my community and to tell hurting people about Jesus Christ. Each week I ride in a patrol car for one shift with a member of the sheriff's department.

One day I heard some sad news. The assistant chief from a volunteer fire department had been killed while doing his job as a firefighter. My partner and I were asked to tell the family that this brave man had died. That evening I was also able to help the other firefighters who were very sad to lose their friend.

The family asked me to do the funeral service. The firefighter was buried with all of the honor and respect due a national and local hero; he had served his country as a Marine and as a firefighter. Through a continued friendship with his family, I had the joy of sharing the good news of the gospel with the firefighter's mother. She decided to trust Jesus Christ as her Savior. The firefighter also had a ten-year-old son. The boy did not attend any church. My church raised the money so he could go to a Christian camp, where he also asked Jesus to be his Savior.

Two lieutenants in the police department chose to accept Jesus as Savior. One was baptized and became a member of the church where I serve as pastor. Other officers have also attended our church services. Once a week I am able to pray with the sheriff. We both look forward to praying together.

Building relationships, providing comfort, partnering in prayer, and sharing the gospel are all part of serving as a chaplain. Please pray for me as I minister in my community.

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