



September 2026



We Must Never Forget

I was out of town at a meeting. My day started simply enough with breakfast at the hotel I was staying at. As I was leaving to get to my 9:00am meeting, there was something on the news about a plane crash.

As the meeting got underway my pager went off with a news alert. A second plane had crashed in New York. Then, slowly at first, more information kept coming to us. The meeting was suspended as we attempted to process what was taking place.

It has been twenty-five years since September 11, 2001. A Google search refreshed my memory of the events of that day. Through pictures, stories and video, I relived what took place. The more I looked at, the more I realized how much I had forgotten. Why? Why didn't I remember more? Why did I have to refresh my memory? Why is what I saw and read only vaguely familiar?

I'm sure there are plenty of psychological theories of why we forget. As a defense mechanism we may bury issues that are painful. As a culture, we may simply be trying to process too much information at a time. But, unfortunately, I think that forgetting is just part of our nature. We tend to move on in life focusing on what is ahead rather than what is behind. And while for the most part this is a good thing, there are some things that we must not forget.

I believe what Jesus did for us on the cross is one of these things. That is why we celebrate the Lord's Supper. This is our opportunity to remember Jesus' death on the cross. It is His death and resurrection that makes it possible for us to know freedom and forgiveness. We can only move forward in our relationship with Him as we look back and remember.

I believe the events of September 11 are another. That is why we celebrate America. This is our opportunity to remember the fragile state of our world. It is the ongoing sacrifice of others that make it possible for us to know freedom. We can only move forward as a Nation as we look back and remember.

Upcoming Events

ESSENTIALS OF FIRE CHAPLAINCY

JANUARY 11TH AND 12TH, 2027

9:00-5:00

ORANGE COUNTY FIRE RESCUE

Orange County Fire Rescue
Training Center
11104 Curry Ford Road
Orlando, FL 32825.



Essentials of Fire Chaplaincy is a two-day course designed to serve as a "Survey of Fire Chaplaincy". It is appropriate for new Chaplains, experienced Chaplains, and those who just want to learn what Fire Chaplaincy is all about. The course includes classes in ministry to Firefighters, Ministry to People in Crisis, Managing Stress, Fire Department Funerals, Fire Chaplain Operations, and many others.

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Chaplaincy Foundations
- Ministry to Firefighters, Ministry to people in Crisis
- FD Funerals
- Fire Department Chaplain Operations
- Helping Firefighters manage stress & more!

REGISTRATION

\$250

Includes all materials

INSTRUCTOR:
CHAPLAIN MILTON SMITH
727-798-5718

LOCAL CONTACT:
CHAPLAIN LOUIS DEL TUFO
407-627-8217



SAVE THE DATE!!!
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO FOLLOW.

ESSENTIALS OF FIRE CHAPLAINCY

MARCH 18TH AND 19TH, 2027

9:00-5:00

PASCO COUNTY FIRE RESCUE

Pasco County Fire Rescue
Station 17

2951 Seven Springs Blvd.

New Port Richey, Fl. 34655



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LOCAL CONTACT:
CHAPLAIN BILL JAMES
727-480-5551



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Florida Fire Chaplains Conference



April 12-14, 2027
Ocala, FL

Website Resources

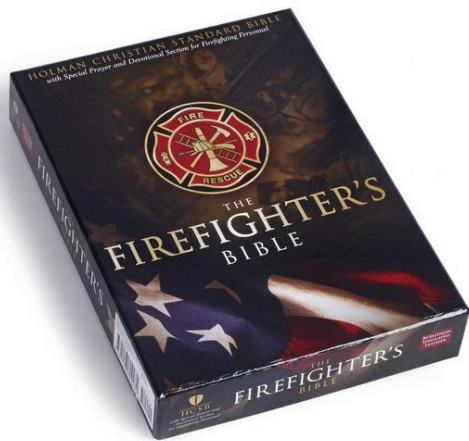
Have you ever been to the Resources page on our website? Click on the image to the right to find help with stress management, spiritual growth, marriage, and parenting.



Click image for more information

Featured Resource: Journey through the Gospels

As you read Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, you will have the joy of reading about Jesus and the time He spent on earth. By reading just two chapters each day, you'll have the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of Jesus. Along with each day's reading are questions to consider to help guide your time in the Word.



[Click image for more information](#)

Faith in the Fire

Chaplain Joe LaCognata shares about some of the unique challenges faced while trying to live out faith in the fire service.



Each month, in an effort to continue to promote the conversation about critical incident stress management, we'll discuss a topic relative to crisis intervention. This will be helpful as a refresher to those who have already been trained, as well as something to create interest among those who have not.

Self Care

"Caring for others is noble; caring for yourself is required."

This anonymous quote captures the heart of self-care. We often feel selfish when we invest time in ourselves, however, this time is critical to our ability to care for others. You can best meet the needs of others when you come to them from a position of strength. This includes being strong physically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually.

Be sure to take time to care for yourself. Remember what they say during pre-flight safety talks: "In the event of loss of cabin air pressure, oxygen masks will descend from above. Put on your own mask first, before assisting others."

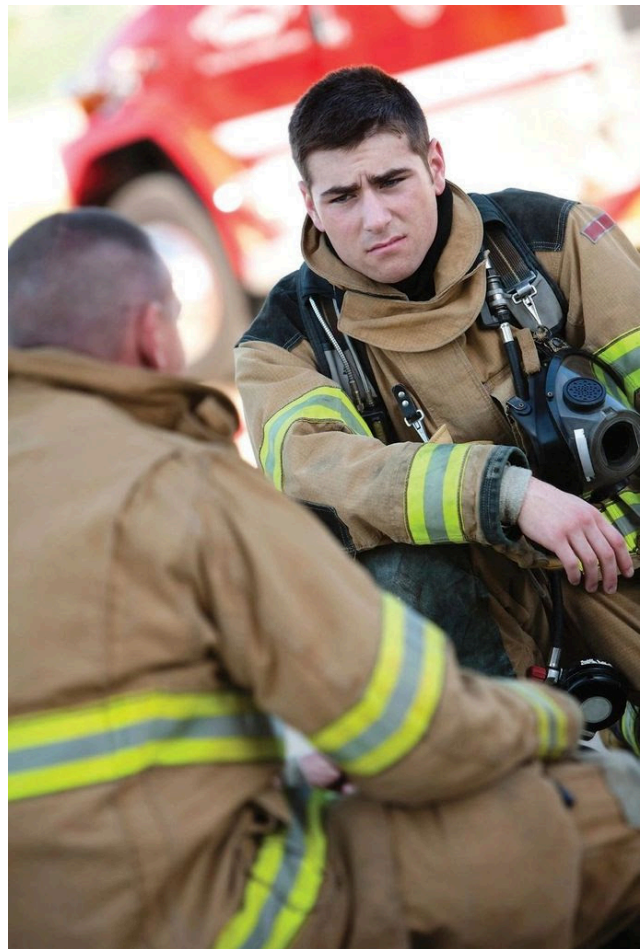
Upcoming CISM Training

CLASS FULL!
Sep 21-Oct 1, 2026
Windermere, FL

October 6-8, 2026
St. Petersburg, FL

December 8-10, 2026
Kissimmee, FL

Contact us to host training at your agency



[Click here for more information and to register](#)



Stress Management Information

Click the logo for information on how to better
manage your stress.



In Remembrance

8/7 - Pilot Christopher Andersen - San Diego, CA

8/7 - Pilot Miles Elliott - San Diego, CA

8/9 - Fire Police Officer George Mullins Jr. - Pittsburgh, PA

8/11 - Firefighter Leslie R. Washington - Fort Wainwright, AK

8/21 - Firefighter Robert Hughes - Abbeville, LA

8/23 - Camp Crewmember Randy Lupe - Phoenix, AZ

59 firefighters have died in the line of duty in 2026



Our Vision

Imagine an organization committed to one task – supporting fire rescue personnel. From their work in the field to their lives at home, picture an organization working to equip these first responders to be more successful on the job and in life. Envision an organization that extends the support of those serving in fire rescue by offering care and comfort to the people they serve. Finally, picture an organization that would impact emergency services workers all across the country. That organization is Fire Rescue Support – supporting fire rescue personnel before, during and after the call.

Donate Today

As a non-profit organization, Fire Rescue Support operates thanks to the generosity of individuals, churches and other organizations. You can give online by clicking the PayPal logo.



FIRE RESCUE
SUPPORT INC



Support your favorite local charity every time you shop.

Donate your change by automatically rounding up your orders to the nearest dollar at checkout.

Round Up at Walmart

You can help Fire Rescue Support every time you shop at Walmart. Choose our organization and round up your purchase. Click on the image and search for Fire Rescue Support.