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The Peacemaker

From the President's Desk



Welcome to this edition of the Peacemaker.

More and more folks are finding out about FCPO and our numbers are increasing. I am particularly pleased to see the number of serving officers signing up. Sometimes it's more comfortable to just live your faith, do your job, and keep a "low profile" without letting the two intersect too much. However, as many of us believe, having a career as a peace officer is a "calling". As such, we need to allow God to use us daily. We need to constantly be considering our colleagues and the citizens we serve.

We were pleased to have RCMP Cst Jan Indenbosch step up to be our Saskatchewan representative, and look forward to further growth in Saskatchewan as more folks learn of this amazing ministry.

In September, Dino Doria and I spent an evening with some officers in Winnipeg. It was great to see the enthusiasm and the potential there!

We are always grateful to those who take the time to write a little something for the Peacemaker. **Your contribution can make the world of difference for someone.** So as you read this edition, please think of contributing an article for our next edition. It's super easy, just send your work to: fcpo.aapc@gmail.com

God bless,

Ron

Justice and the Gospel

Again next year, we will have a booth at [Vancouver's Missions Fest](#) (January 27 – 29, 2017). Their conference theme will be "Justice and the Gospel"! It is estimated that over 30,000 people attend this annual event at the Vancouver Convention Centre in Downtown Vancouver. Besides attending the various events, folks walk through a hall containing a multitude of various Christian ministry booths. It's a great occasion for us to meet fellow officers and their families. For many, it is the first time they have learned of the FCPO.

We are looking for volunteers to help occupy the booth and inform folks about this ministry. So, if you are in the area and can spare a couple hours to help us out please let us know at fcpo.aapc@gmail.com.

Likewise, mark your calendar for February 24 – 26, 2017. We will be at [Alberta's Missions Fest](#) in Edmonton and can use some help there as well.

LEADERS - BEWARE OF SMALL FOXES

By: [Pierre R. Bergeron](#)



It was during my military service that I understood that being attentive to details is an extremely important quality for a soldier. While in Afghanistan, we were trained to be alert and watch for wires along the side of roads, to detect unusual objects that were along trails, to pay attention to how people were dressed and their body language. Being thoughtless can cause your death and that of your squad, while being alert can save lives.

It is often the small details in life that can become enormous stumbling blocks.

The book of Song of Solomon in the Bible warns leaders that it is: “the little foxes that ruin the vineyards”. “*Catch for us the foxes, the little foxes that ruin the vineyards, our vineyards that are in bloom*” Song of Solomon 2:15. It is often the small details in life that can become enormous stumbling blocks. They can seem insignificant and harmless but there lies the trap because they can become deadly.

What is the small fox that wants to invade your territory and life? Is it indifference, or an attitude

of “I don’t really need to pay close attention, I just need to get by”? I remember when I did my basic training in 1993, I was a Reservist doing the Regular force training in Chilliwack, BC. I was struggling the first three weeks because I kept saying to myself “I don’t need this to make a living, I’m a Reservist with a real job at home”. Then I realized that the challenge wasn’t about the training, it was about me. Basic training was a God-given opportunity to grow personally and spiritually. It was all about my attitude, humility and practicing maxims that I had been repeating to my children like “when the going gets tough, the tough get going”. Suddenly I realized that I was letting little foxes (negative inner conversations) ruin a perfectly good training and life changing opportunity. That third weekend while I was confined to barracks (CB), I went on a mental hunt and got rid of the little foxes (changed my inner conversation) and yes, basic training became one of those “blood and sweat” life changing experiences that I cherish.

So remember, small foxes can be deeper and more cunning. It can be resentment towards a person that frustrates us. It can be a habit that we struggle with in secret. Whatever the cause, just like a good soldier, we must be attentive to a myriad of detail, thoughts and attitudes in our daily life that may seem insignificant but are really destructive.

Mentoring question: Identify the inner or outer conversations and other elements that may seem inoffensive but who are in reality “little foxes that want to ruin your vineyards”.

Pierre Bergeron is the owner/CEO of [SIS Leadership Inc.](#), a ministry providing French leadership training and resources. He has served as the Senior Chaplain at Canadian Forces. Pierre is a member of our Longueuil, Quebec chapter.

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Dino Doria

Drawing a Biblical Analogy on the Numerous Uses of Salt (Part I)

Most people probably think of salt as simply a white granular food seasoning. In fact, only 6% of all salt manufactured goes into food. Apparently we use salt in more than 14,000 different ways from the making of products as varied as plastic, paper, glass, polyester, rubber and fertilizers to household bleach, soaps, detergents and dyes. Everyone uses salt, directly or indirectly.

Today's devotional draws analogies between the characteristics of "salt" that we as Christians should be aware of in order to begin to understand how we are to be the "Salt" of the earth.

In Matthew 5:13-15, we are reminded that we are the salt of the earth. (13) *"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men."*

Let's examine the characteristics of "salt" Salt is a preservative - The Lord has sealed us with His Holy Spirit and set us apart to further His Will here on earth. He preserves us.

Salt is also a healing ingredient - let our words be seasoned with salt to bring comfort and healing to people and not destruction and hurt. Salt is a symbol of incorruptibility and permanence. A "covenant of salt" signified an everlasting covenant.

In the Bible, salt also came to symbolize purity, perfection, wisdom, hospitality, durability, and fidelity. Only the Holy Spirit can produce these qualities in us as we learn to abide in Him.

In 2 Chronicles 13:5 - the bible demonstrates the enduring qualities of His covenant.

(5) *Should you not know that the LORD God of Israel gave the dominion over Israel to David forever, to him and his sons, by a covenant of salt.*

Here, a covenant of salt suggests an agreement of enduring qualities,

even forever. Thus a covenant of salt is one that is very strong. Salt is understood to be the preservative, suggesting endurance. When God makes use of this metaphor, He is urging us to be faithful despite how circumstances appear on the surface because His Word is absolutely sure. Like Himself, His Word endures forever.

When we allow His love to radiate through us - the Holy Spirit will season our words and bring flavour in the person's life. Our words when directed by the Holy Spirit's love will bring hope and nutrients in the person life.

My father who was a chef, always knew how much salt to use in his meals. As a young boy I also noticed that my dad never measured how much salt he used - my father always knew the correct amount of salt to use for each meal. With some foods he would use less and with others he used greater amounts and different textures of salt. As I reflect on this I begin to understand how the Holy Spirit directs us to use the correct amount of salt to season other people's lives through us. How do we keep our "salt" From losing its flavour? By reading the bible daily - His word will season our "salt".

The Holy Spirit who lives in us, and gives us power to maintain our salt seasoned - not only knows the exact amount but also knows the type of salt that He wants us to use with people we encounter.

If we can draw a small analogy when water is considered hard it contains calcium & magnesium (hardness

ions). Replacing them with 'soft' sodium ions softens the water avoiding scale build-up on hot water appliances.

In life we encounter people who have been hardened to the things of God because of different circumstances in their lives.

The Holy Spirit who seasons our "salt" will direct us to use just the right kind of salt and correct amount. We must not run ahead of the Lord.

Sometimes He directs us through His love to use 'soft' sodium ions softening the water and scales in that person life.

If we can draw an analogy with the soft sodium ions - we realize that it is only the "Holy Spirit" that removes the hardening - calcium & magnesium - the (hardness ions) from the person's heart and not us.

The Holy Spirit knows exactly the type of approach we are to use in every situation.

Remember when we are weak and incapable of speaking up - sincerely ask the Holy Spirit for - His guidance, His strength, His direction and you will see His power show up to season the person's life.

Today be sensitive to the Spirit of God - He will direct you where He wants you to deposit His "soft sodium ions".

The Holy Spirit seasons our "salt" so that we can season others.

Blessings

Dino Doria MSc

Part II in our next edition.

Honouring Our Fallen



Ron Seney greeting an RCMP colleague



On Sunday October 16th Atlantic Canada FCPO Director Ron Seney and Nova Scotia Provincial Representative John D. Allan attended the Nova Scotia Fallen Peace Officer Memorial Service. On this solemn occasion to remember and honour our fallen comrades, Ron and John were also able to touch base with many familiar faces and old friends.

Enjoy a Fall Wild Game Feast - November 13, 2016!

Ron Seney advises that all are welcome to join him and John Allen for a church service followed by a time of fellowship and a wild game feast!

We are well into the hunting season and Ron and Nova Scotia FCPO member Matt Poupart would like to share a variety of some of their wild game delicacies. The fellowship will be extraordinary!

Time: 11:00 am - 03:00 pm

Location: Community Life Church, 20 Curtis Drive, Truro, Nova Scotia

In order to ensure there is plenty of food, please rsvp to Ron or John at your earliest convenience. Details and contact points are on the Nova Scotia [Events page](#) on our website.



Consider a Helping Trip to Egypt

By: Maher Aziz Khela



I accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my savior when I was in high School in Egypt. Years go by with ups & downs, but by God's grace I'm strong and alive! In 1997, my wife & I with our 2 children immigrated to Canada. My dream was to work in the justice system. In 2004, I got accepted by Correction Service Canada as a correctional officer. I started in Kingston, Ontario but now I'm working in Kitchener.

I always remember what Jesus answered to the soldiers - that they have to be fair. This is what I pray - that the Holy Spirit will always help me to be fair, regardless of the crime(s) the person has been sentenced for. Sometimes it is very hard to separate my personal feelings toward the inmates, but by God's grace I succeed to avoid any personal feelings and work under the Law with mercy and diligence.

Recently, I was blessed to find the FCPO website on the internet and join this organization. It is great to know I have many brothers and sisters across Canada who likewise serve the Lord as peace officers.

In 2010, my wife & I invited a group of friends from Canada to visit Egypt (to help with some charity work & enjoy Egypt with us). We went again in 2012, 2015, 2016. We are going to go again in 2017!

I would like to invite any of my FCPO family to consider coming with us during next year's March Break (March 4-18). Come take a selfie in front of the pyramids, ride a camel with a friend, go snorkeling in the Red Sea, make new friends, all while serving and helping others! Yes, we're talking about a trip to Egypt for 2 weeks. All for the low cost of \$1000 including food, transportation, and accommodation (airfare not included).

You will not forget the people you will meet in Egypt. Especially when you have a team of 20-30 junior high & high school students helping non-profit organizations. In addition to the incredible experience, students will proudly receive a letter from credible organizations authorizing their mandatory 40 volunteer hours.

The Egypt Trip is open for students in grades 9-12 & grades 6-8 (if they are coming with their parent(s) or an adult supervisor). For further details, check us out on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#). We Promise you will eat, travel, help, learn and have fun for 2 weeks!

Egypt Trip at a Glance

Day 1: Arrival & fun day (Nile River foloka, Museum* +

Day 2: Fun day (Camel ride + pyramids selfies +

Day 3 - 5: Luxor

Day 6: Meeting with Egyptian youth

Day 7 - 9: Red Sea

Day 10 - 11: <http://www.thinkanddo.org>

Day 12: Shopping

Day 13 Departure

Cost in Canadian Dollars: ~\$1000 airfare (from Toronto) + (~ \$1000 - \$1,200 Can \$ for food, Transportation, site seeing, etc.)

* 50 % off to visit any museum or other sites in Egypt for any student.

FCPO Conference and Officer Appreciation Day

By: Eric Beauchamp (Quebec Provincial Representative.).



On Friday September 30th, 2016, I attended the Elkhart, Indiana, FCPO Chapter's Conference - and what a blessing it was to be there with my US comrades! There were close to 300 people present at the conference and 4 or 5 guest speakers who told us of some personal experiences they had during their careers and how they managed these situation given their faith (including a General of the US Delta Force who commanded the Black Hawk Down Operation). What hit me the most was when one of the speakers said that "Real warriors" don't fight because they hate what's in front of them, but because they love what's behind them! It made me realize that with everything that is going on in the US, with the riots, the shootings, the civil unrest, and the war on cops, none of them have ever stopped serving and protecting their community - because they love what's behind them. The bible says in Psalms 94; 16 that God is looking for people that will rise up against the evildoers and let me tell you something - We are these people! I know it sounds easier to say than to do, but whatever we might encounter in our future, we need to keep rising up for the people behind us no matter how hard it can be or how frustrating it can be sometimes.



The next day (Oct. 1st) was the Officer Appreciation Day which consisted of a full day of fun for all law enforcement officers (LEOs) and their families. The Elkhart PD's chaplain Jim Bontrager, joined his acreage with his neighbours' and organized more than 10 different activities around the properties. We were given the chance to shoot different weapons such as: a 50 caliber, full-automatic machine guns, pistols, rifles, and 2 real war-dated canons! There were helicopter rides, ultra-light rides, rock-climbing, a rappelling tower, archery, 400' zip-line and much more!

There was a 25' x 15' tent full of food made by the town folks just to thank us for our service and **ALL OF THIS WAS TOTALLY FREE!**

It was like a county fair exclusively for law enforcement officers and their families! All that the citizens wanted to do was to take one day of the year and to thank an officer. I have to say that it was really unusual for me! Mark your calendars now - next year it's going to take place on Oct. 6th-7th. It would really be great to see a delegation of Canadians encouraging and thanking Jim and the good folks of Elkhart for this very unique and wonderful day.

God bless you all and like Jim keeps saying: "Keep taking the hill"!!!

Edmonton Chapter Enjoys Annual BBQ

By: Nicola Coulstring (Alberta Director)



For the past few years the Edmonton chapter of FCPO- Canada has made it a tradition to hold a family BBQ for local members.

This year's BBQ was hosted at the home of one of our local board members. He and his family opened their home to an assortment of guests of all different ages, with the youngest being less than a year old. There was an abundance of food, a trampoline for the kids to enjoy, and good conversations shared during our time together.

For the most part, the weather cooperated and we were able to enjoy the end of the summer season in the sunshine, when the clouds would let up and the wind didn't threaten to carry the patio umbrella away! We had a first for FCPO Edmonton this year as the son of one of our board members attended the BBQ as a new recruit with the Edmonton Police Service, allowing us to have two generations of officers celebrating together with us at our annual family BBQ. For some in attendance, this was their first FCPO event.

Our great God has continued to bless us with the opportunity and ability to hold these events for local peace officers and their families, and we as a board look forward to the year ahead and other chapter events.



Injured Officer Initiative

Whenever we learn an officer has been injured in the line of duty and is hospitalized, we initiate prayer for that officer. Specifically, we are blessed to have a number of members who regularly pray for this ministry. They and all the FCPO leadership team are notified when we learn of an injury to an officer.

Once the officer has stabilized we deliver our get well card to them with a gift certificate in lieu of flowers (usually from a well-known donut shop!).

When you learn of an officer who has been seriously injured on duty (no matter the cause), who is admitted for a hospital stay, please let us know. We can then activate our prayer chain and subsequently send our card and token of appreciation to our injured colleague.

fcpo.aapc@gmail.com or 1-877-528-2202.

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You can contact any of these members via our [Contact Page](#) on our website,