



God's activity is evident when people express a desire for more spiritual input into their lives! Three new and exciting developments are evidence of God's stirring in the departments I serve.

First, a chaplain led Bible study has begun for our firefighters. Each week, one of the five chaplains who serve our city's police and fire departments, shares practical insights and help from Scripture. This came at the request of a department member. The chaplains are thrilled to get to offer such an important ministry that has been well received and appreciated.

Second, a group of wives from the Sheriff's Office have begun a monthly prayer meeting. Their purpose is to pray for God to move in a mighty way among those who work in the agency. My wife Brenda and I are privileged to participate. In the few months since this meeting's inception, noticeable changes have been obvious in various individuals and situations. Also stemming from this gathering is the desire and plans to practically serve families within the agency, especially in regards to the birth of babies, families needing meals, etc.

Third, a deputy's study group is forming which will provide spiritual encouragement and a challenge to be men of valor! This weekly meeting will also offer accountability and motivation to pursue greater godliness. Law enforcement can be a difficult environment in which to live out one's faith, thus making such a group even more essential. There has been a positive response and desire to participate among officers.

In other news, in February, I had the unique opportunity to be "Freezin' for a Reason!" Emergency responders regularly serve their communities in fundraising for various causes. This year I joined our police team and some of their kids in jumping into the frigid waters of Whitefish Lake in Whitefish, Mont., to raise funds for the Montana Special Olympics. The police department and sheriff's office both organized teams to participate in the Penguin Plunge that raised approximately \$54,500. Here I am pictured jumping with my group off the ice into 38 degree water!



And finally, Brenda and I recently participated in a special seminar on the physiological effects of working in law enforcement. While on duty, an officer's sympathetic nervous system produces a hyper-vigilance that results in heightened senses, clearer thinking, and quick decision making. Off duty, the officer's para-sympathetic nervous system takes over, producing apathy and withdrawal. Without an awareness of this cycle, officers can fail to invest in their personal lives leading to strained marriages, confused children, and removal of oneself from healthy involvements such as church, recreation, and non-cop friendships. This training provided insight that will allow me to assist officers in living healthier lives with this life-changing understanding. Thank you for your support that allows me to serve our community in this way.

The Lord bless you and keep you,

Drew