

A Sample Version of

GETTING STARTED IN EMERGENCY SERVICES CHAPLAINCY

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The complete course totaling 17 pages can be taken at no charge. After successfully completing a written exam, a course completion certificate will be issued to you from the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary in Springfield, MO. It should take approximately 3 hrs to complete the course.

I. UNDERSTANDING EMERGENCY SERVICES CHAPLAINCY

What is meant by “Emergency Services”?

For our purposes, “emergency services” includes fire departments, law enforcement agencies, emergency medical services, and emergency dispatch centers. . . .

What is “Emergency Services Chaplaincy”?

“Emergency services chaplaincy” is a term for the ministry chaplains provide to fire, law enforcement, emergency medical services, or emergency dispatch personnel through association with their respective departments. The emergency services chaplain primarily provides a ministry of presence. By working alongside and spending time with responders, the chaplain gains their trust and respect. . . .

What are some examples that illustrate how an emergency services chaplain might function in ministry to responders?

- A rookie went on his first call as a volunteer firefighter. It was house fire in which five children
- Disciplinary action had been taken against a firefighter several times. After yet another breach of conduct, he
- The son of a firefighter was taken to the hospital with
- A firefighter was home with a serious, life-threatening

medical problem. He needed . . .

What are some examples that illustrate the ministry of emergency services chaplains to citizens in crisis?

- A woman was about to deliver a premature baby. The woman had . . .
- A woman had a stroke at her home. The loss of blood to the brain had caused . . .
- The driver in her early twenties hit a large oak tree broadside with her vehicle at highway speed. She was . . .
- An eight-year-old boy ran away from home. He crossed an interstate highway on foot and was . . .

II. PURSUING MINISTRY AS AN EMERGENCY SERVICES CHAPLAIN

What are some steps a person could take in deciding whether or not to pursue ministry as an emergency services chaplain?

- 1) Take an extended time to . . .
- 2) If you are married, . . .
- 3) Realistically assess the commitment of time and spiritual and emotional energy you are able to give to this calling.
Being a volunteer emergency services chaplain does not mean quitting your "day job." . . .

What does an emergency services chaplain get paid, and where can one find a position?

Emergency services chaplains are almost exclusively . . .

Who initiates the beginning of an emergency services chaplaincy program? The "getting started" process for emergency services chaplaincy can begin at the initiative of . . .

When a person has determined that the Lord is directing them to become an emergency services chaplain, what steps will he/she need to take to find a chaplain position?

- 1) Learn all you can about . . . The top three courses we

would recommend are . . .

2) Begin seeking God about which area of emergency services will be your primary focus.

After you have demonstrated a commitment to learning about emergency services as a whole, begin to . . .

5) Apply to the department and . . .

III. BEGINNING A CHAPLAINCY MINISTRY

What if my local department has never had a chaplaincy program and they do not know how to begin one?

No doubt, there are many departments who do not really know what chaplains do or what they should do. The department will probably want . . .

What are some recommendations for a person who has recently been approved and is ready to start functioning as a chaplain?

1) A beginning chaplain needs to . . .

2) Realize that it takes . . .

3) Be prepared for . . .

4) Continue to . . .

What additional training might a new emergency services chaplain need?

Continued training is important to being a good chaplain. Many times the department or agency in which you serve will . . .

Consider taking several courses in . . .

CONCLUSION:

Lives have been touched because emergency services chaplains not only know God intellectually, but they also know His power and love experientially. They minister to each person without bias. They depend on the power of the Holy Spirit of God. They do not push religion, nor do they push any particular theological position. They primarily provide a ministry of presence, showing God's love to those in need. They build

relationships. When they are invited to do so, they call on Almighty God to do miracles in the lives of hurting and confused people.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The successful completion of this course requires that you do the following:

1) Listen to at least three (3) audio recording of actual 9-1-1 calls. Try to choose calls you think might be ones where a chaplain could be helpful. The recordings can be found at:
http:// _____

2) Go to the Internet site: _____ and watch the video " _____ " which describes the work of a police chaplain in the _____ Metropolitan Police Department.

3) Go to the Internet site: _____ and watch at least one video on chaplains in each of the four major divisions of emergency services (fire, law enforcement, emergency medical, and emergency dispatching).

4) Go to the Internet site: _____ and watch at least two videos on each of four major divisions of emergency services . . .

Postscript

IT IS OUR SINCERE HOPE THAT WE HAVE BEEN HELPFUL IN YOUR QUEST TO MINISTER IN EMERGENCY SERVICES. WE STAND READY WITH TRAINING AND HELPS THAT WILL ENABLE YOU TO GROW IN YOUR MINISTRY. WE WOULD ALSO INVITE YOU TO JOIN WITH US IN FELLOWSHIP THROUGH CONTACT BY EMAIL OR CORRESPONDENCE, SO THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE EACH OTHER IN THE LORD'S WORK.

Suggested Readings & Reference Materials

Adams, Joshua. A Cop and His God. Ft. Worth, TX: Kight Higgins, 2008. ISBN: 978-0-615-20580-9.

And many more . . .

There is an entire set of _____ Chaplains Training

Materials (written materials, audio CDs, etc. available at:
http:// _____

The above was taken from our course "Getting Started in Emergency Services Chaplaincy." To take the complete course, you may email Robby Jernigan at robbyj@ipa.net or go on the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary's website www.agts.edu and look under their Continuing Education Department.

As in introductory offer, this course can be taken free of charge.