



# Doing Church **Differently**

## **RAF CHAPLAINCY**

Part 2:  
Bringing God's Peace in Challenging Places

[You can watch Part One Video on our YouTube Channel Here](#)

### **OPENING PRAYER**

Lord, You call us to be a light in every environment, even in places of uncertainty and challenge.

Teach us how to bring Your peace to those who need it most, and help us to be present for others as You are present for us. Amen."

### **BRINGING PEACE TO OTHERS**

John 14:27: *"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."*

- Jonathan speaks about supporting service personnel in times of uncertainty. How does this verse relate to his role as a chaplain?
- How can we offer God's peace to those around us who are facing stress, fear, or uncertainty?
- What are some practical ways we can reflect God's peace in our workplaces, homes, and communities?

### **GOING DEEPER:**

**Serving Others with Compassion:** Philippians 2:4-5

- Jonathan describes chaplaincy as "a ministry of presence", walking alongside people in their struggles. How does this verse encourage us to do the same?
- What are some ways we can be fully present in the lives of those who need support?
- How can we develop a Christ-like mindset of humility and service in our daily interactions?

**Supporting Those Who Serve:** Galatians 6:2

- The video highlights the emotional burden that service personnel carry, especially when deployed. How can we help support those who serve, whether in the military or other demanding roles?
- How do we respond when others share their struggles with us? Do we listen well and offer meaningful support?
- Who in our community might be carrying a heavy burden, and how can we reach out to them?

**Finding Strength in Difficult Times:** Isaiah 41:10

- Military life involves separation from family, uncertainty, and stressful situations. How does this verse offer encouragement in times of difficulty?
- Have you ever experienced a moment when you needed to rely on God's strength? What was that like?
- How can we remind ourselves—and others—of God's presence and strength in difficult seasons?

**Being a Force for Good in the World:** Matthew 5:9

- Jonathan talks about how chaplains bring peace to individuals, even in the midst of military operations. How does this verse relate to that calling?
- In what ways can we be peacemakers in our own communities?
- What are some practical steps we can take to resolve conflict, bring encouragement, and promote peace where we live and work?

## APPLICATION: LIVING OUT THIS CALLING

- Offer a Listening Ear – Find someone this week who may need encouragement or support and take time to listen to them.
- Pray for Those in Service – Remember military personnel, first responders, and those in demanding roles in your prayers.
- Be a Peacemaker – Identify an area in your life where you can bring peace, whether through reconciling relationships, supporting someone in distress, or speaking words of encouragement.

## FIVE QUESTIONS FOR THE CHURCH

1. How can we bring church to people rather than expecting them to come to us?

*RAF chaplains do not gather people in a traditional church setting, yet they still serve as spiritual leaders and support systems for their communities. Are there people in our community who need spiritual care but would never step into a church building?*

2. How can we be a 'ministry of presence' in our communities?

*How can we, as a church, be more intentional about walking alongside people rather than just offering programs or sermons?*

*In what ways can we create safe spaces for people to express their struggles and feel supported?*

3. How do we support those facing stress, isolation, and life challenges?

*Military personnel often experience separation from loved ones, personal struggles, and work pressures—issues that also exist in many communities. How can our church better support people dealing with loneliness, stress, or major life transitions?*

4. How can we equip people to be peacemakers and encouragers?

*Chaplains bring God's peace to people, not through preaching alone, but through compassion, presence, and encouragement. How can we train and encourage our church members to be peacemakers and encouragers in their workplaces, families, and communities? How can we model Christ's love in a way that speaks louder than words?*

5. How do we respond to God's calling in new and unexpected ways?

*Jonathan followed a calling into military chaplaincy, an unconventional but deeply impactful ministry. Are we open to God calling us into ministry in places we didn't expect—such as workplaces, schools, or online communities? How can our church be more flexible and responsive to God's leading, even if it challenges traditional ideas of church?*

## CLOSING PRAYER

Lord, help us to be peacemakers in a world that often feels chaotic. Teach us how to support those who serve, to carry the burdens of others, and to bring Your love and comfort wherever we go. Strengthen us to be a force for good, reflecting Your grace and compassion in all we do. Amen.

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Chaplaincy is supported through the Home Mission Appeal: find out how to support [Home Mission Here](#)

