



Enter the Lion

June, 2020

Pastor,

My name is Josh Cook and I'm a police officer in Maryland. I'm also humbled to be the co-founder of a ministry for law enforcement officers and members of the military.

The past two weeks have been extremely difficult for us as a nation. It is heartbreaking to see the state of affairs we are currently in. In the past week, I have witnessed my brothers and sisters in law enforcement carry heavy burdens and heavy hearts.

What I will be addressing in this letter comes out of love and respect. This is not a means to detract attention and negate the hurt the African-American community is feeling. The death of George Floyd was tragic; racism and injustice need to be spoken out against. It's not politics, it's evil; and therefore I'm glad the church is taking a stand.

In the past few days, I have been contacted by numerous police officers across the country. The slander in the media, the anger and rage from the community, all of that hurts. However, the most painful wounds for some have come from officer's pastors and their churches. Many officers have expressed that they have not felt the love or affirmation from their church, on top of being ostracized by the general public.

Officers are quitting in droves. We can't stand for that. It's easy to assume that cops have it together, that nothing phases them. Law Enforcement Officers are tough, but they are human as well. Pastor hear me, cops are hurting badly.

I do not envy your job as a pastor. How do you lead in such a time as this? What do you say? What do you not say? We recognize you are in a tough position, but God has placed you there for a reason.

I respectfully ask that you would consider your words carefully. I ask that you would purposefully seek out the first responders in your congregation and ask them how they are doing. Let them know they are loved and appreciated.

Godly justice is needed now more than ever. Encourage them to pick up their cross and count it an honor to serve in this way, in such a time as this.

A Christian police officer should be a missionary in the community they serve. They should be taking the gospel of Jesus into broken homes and communities that are hurting. We must equip our officers to fulfill this vital role!

If you have any questions I would love to hear from you. We would also be honored to be a resource for any first responders in your congregation.

Thank you for all that you do, with love and much respect,

Josh Cook

Josh@EntertheLion.co

www.EntertheLion.co