



“So, What's The Secret”

October 2020

On the streets recently, after a rather busy night of protests, I bumped into an old timer "Jimmy", who was working Michigan Avenue. I actually remembered when he graduated the Academy over 30 yrs. ago. We exchanged some war stories, shared some laughs, and reminisced about yesteryear. I asked him, "Jimmy, so what's your secret for job longevity?". Jimmy answered, "I tried to keep my focus on the reason I chose public service". The reason being, "to be able to be there for others in time of need, even though it might not always be appreciated nor my kindness noticed. In my small way, to make a difference in this world, helping one person at a time."

It made my heart smile. That answer is what makes us at the Chaplains Unit so proud of our flock. In the most difficult of times, in the most challenging of times one thing is for certain, when the public calls for service you respond, regardless of what waits for you! Jerry's answer made my heart smile. It reminded me of the story "The Elder gentleman and his Doctor...

It was a busy morning, approximately 8:30 a.m., when an elderly gentleman in his 80's, arrived at his Doctors' to have stitches removed from his thumb. He stated that he was in a hurry as he had an appointment at 9:00 am. The Doctor took his vital signs and had him take a seat, knowing it would be over an hour before someone would be able to see him. The Doctor noticed him constantly looking at his watch and decided, since he was not busy with another patient, he would evaluate his wound. On examining his thumb, the wound was well healed, so the Doctor got the needed supplies to remove his sutures and redress his wound. While taking care of his wound, the Doctor engaged the old man in conversation. He asked him if he had another appointment this morning, as he seemed to be in such a hurry and kept on looking at his watch. The gentleman answered, no, that he needed to go to the nursing home to eat breakfast with his wife.

The Doctor then inquired as to her health. The old man told the Doctor that she had been in the nursing home for a while and that she was a victim of Alzheimer's disease. As they talked, the Doctor asked if she would be upset if he was a bit late. He replied that she no longer knew who he was, that she had not recognized him in five years now. The Doctor was surprised, and asked him, "And you still go every morning, even though she doesn't know who you are?" He smiled as he patted the Doctors hand and said, "She doesn't know me, but I still know who she is".

The Doctor had to hold back tears as the old man left, he had goose bumps on his arm, and thought, "That is the kind of love I want in my life."End of story...

Some points to ponder...

True love is neither physical, nor romantic. True love is an acceptance of all that is, has been, will be and will not be.

The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the best of everything they have. (Amen to that!).

Remember your life is a journey, not a destination, enjoy the ride.

Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down.

Enjoy the simple things, laugh often, long and loud.

Remember, in life, tears will happen, endure, grieve, and move on. The only person, who is with us our entire life, is ourselves BE ALIVE while you ARE alive.

Cherish your health. If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.

Tell the people you love, that you love them, at every opportunity, no one knows what tomorrow will bring.

And always remember, life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away, go ahead and make every moment special.

On behalf of ALL your Chaplains, thank you for All the sacrifices that you make on behalf of our city. Thank you for ALWAYS being there, regardless of the circumstances, and most of all thanks for being you! Should you need a shoulder to lean on, an ear to listen, or perhaps have some good humor to share don't hesitate to give us a call.

Your Chaplains are here for you 24/7.

Unit # 312 746-8458

May G-d bless you, protect you, and ALWAYS keep you in His loving care. AMEN!

Compliments of your Police Chaplain

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