



“Who You Are Makes A Difference”

June 2020

What a roller coaster ride the past few weeks have been. Not knowing from one day to the next what tomorrow will bring. The interesting part is that no one gave us a heads up to first fasten our seat belts. We still haven't figured out, what is the best way to deal with the ever changing COVID-19 news, numbers and statistics. I am quite amazed at the number of people who just quite simply stopped watching the news as a means of calming the nerves. But one thing has not changed from the start, but only increased in intensity, and that is the dedication and devotion of our first responders; especially our brothers and sisters of the CPD. Your Chaplains have the privilege of watching you in action on the streets at all hours of day and night. We are beyond words of thanks and gratitude for all you sacrifice and all of your selflessness. Our city owes each of you a big debt of gratitude, which brings to mind the story of "The Blue Ribbon Project" ...

A teacher in New York decided to honor each of her seniors in high school by telling them the difference they each made.

Using a process developed by Helice Bridges of Del Mar, California, she called each student to the front of the class, one at a time.

First, she told them how the student made a difference to her and the class. Then she presented each of them with a blue ribbon imprinted with gold letters which read, "Who I Am Makes a Difference."

Afterwards the teacher decided to do a class project to see what kind of impact recognition would have on a community.

She gave each of the students three more ribbons and instructed them to go out and spread this acknowledgment ceremony.

Then they were to follow up on the results, see who honored whom, and report back to the class in about a week.

One of the boys in the class went to a junior executive in a nearby company and honored him for helping him with his career planning. He gave him a blue ribbon and put it on his shirt.

Then he gave him two extra ribbons, and said, "We're doing a class project on recognition, and we'd like you to go out, find somebody to honor, give them a blue ribbon, then give them the extra blue ribbon so they can acknowledge a third person to keep this acknowledgment ceremony going. Then please report back to me and tell me what happened."

Later that day the junior executive went in to see his boss, who had been noted, by the way, as being kind of a grouchy fellow. He sat his boss down and he told him that he deeply admired him for being a creative genius. The boss seemed very surprised. The junior executive asked him if he would accept the gift of the blue ribbon and would he give him permission to put it on him. His surprised boss said, "Well, sure."

The junior executive took the blue ribbon and placed it right on his boss's jacket above his heart. As he gave him the last extra ribbon, he said,

"Would you do me a favor? Would you take this extra ribbon and pass it on by honoring somebody else? The young boy who first gave me the ribbons is doing a project in school and we want to keep this recognition ceremony going and find out how it affects people."

That night the boss came home to his 14-year-old son and sat him down. He said, "The most incredible thing happened to me today. I was in my office and one of the junior executives came in and told me he admired me and gave me a blue ribbon for being a creative genius. Imagine. He thinks I'm a creative genius."

"Then he put this blue ribbon that says Who I Am Makes A Difference on my jacket above my heart. He gave me an extra ribbon and asked me to find somebody else to honor. As I was driving home tonight, I started thinking about whom I would honor with this ribbon and I thought about you. I want to honor you."

"My days are really hectic and when I come home, I don't pay a lot of attention to you. Sometimes I scream at you for not getting good enough grades in school and for your bedroom being a mess, but somehow tonight, I just wanted to sit here and, well, just let you know that you do make a difference to me.

Besides your mother, you are the most important person in my life. You're a great kid and I love you, and you are my world!"

The startled boy started to sob and sob, and he couldn't stop crying. His whole body shook.

He looked up at his father and said through his tears, "I was sitting here, at the end of my rope, thinking how meaningless my life is because no one cares about me", he paused and then said " thank you Dad, for giving me a fresh kick start, and letting me know that I do make a difference".

On behalf of ALL your Chaplains, please put a blue ribbon on your heart that says "Who I Am Makes A Difference". We watch you in action, under the most difficult of circumstances and under the most difficult conditions and YOU DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE, for that we say THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU!
Last but not least a page from the "Moshe Files" to keep you smiling.....

Everything I need to know about life,
I learned from Noah's Ark

One: Don't miss the boat.

Two: Remember that we are all in the same boat.

Three: Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.

Four: Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.

Five: Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.

Six: Build your future on high ground.

Seven: For safety's sake, travel in pairs.

Eight: Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.

Nine: When you're stressed, float a while.

Ten: Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.

Eleven: No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting...

May G-d keep you healthy and safe, today and always!

Compliments of you Police Chaplain

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The world is going through some unprecedented times. None of us have ever experienced anything even close in our lifetimes.