

“Today, salvation has come to your house because this man too is a son of Abraham.” **Luke 19:9**

Jesus sees YOU! – Deborah Akinlawon QPM

On the 24th June 2026, I was asked to speak at the launch of Shine Your Light, an initiative from the National Day of Prayer and Worship (NDOPW). The topic – The Humanity of Policing, the venue, the Houses of Parliament!

I went along with a fellow CPA member who was in full uniform in 30+ degrees heat. As usual, as we walked around together before the event started. You could feel the eyes watching as we walked around chatting about what we were going to say. Our audience was a mixture of Christian MPs and church leaders from across the country. I shared about a tragic incident that I had personal knowledge of, that I had dealt with before I retired. Then we shared this officer's testimony of how Jesus, through CPA, had turned her life around. All of sudden you could see people's faces as they realised *“oh the uniform has a living breathing, sometimes suffering human being behind it”* After we were prayed for, we mingled and many came and thanked us for helping them to see a different side to Police Officers.

Still, I wondered, why does it need to be said that there is a person behind the uniform?

Back in Jesus day, Tax Collectors were the most hated people. People spat at them, called them traitors, they were shunned and they were bunched together with the lowest people in society (ring any bells?), and yet... they were doing their job.

Jesus didn't look at what they did, He saw who they were. He saw Zacchaeus, a tax collector up in a tree, called him down and went to eat at his house (Luke 19). He saw Matthew and called him to be a disciple (Matt 9v9). Jesus sat with the tax collectors and sinners Matt 9 v 10-13.

Jesus sees YOU! He sees the person behind the uniform, behind the title, behind the role. You can't hide from Him.

Zacchaeus response to being noticed and having the Son of God come into his house to eat, was that he repented, gave back everything he'd stolen and gained salvation. All because Jesus SAW him. In Luke



19 v 9 Jesus said to him *“Today, salvation has come to your house because this man too is a son of Abraham.”*

I believe He said this for people to understand, you might despise this tax collector but he is also a son of Abraham like you. He is like you.

I add to what Sir Robert Mark said, the Public and the Police are men and women, and we are all in need of prayer and in need of a Saviour, and that Saviour is Jesus Christ.

NB. This ministry and many others have promised to pray for the wonderful men and women in Policing from a new perspective, Gods Perspective. We will keep spreading this message till they all do.



On & Off Duty

CPA at CVM The Gathering!

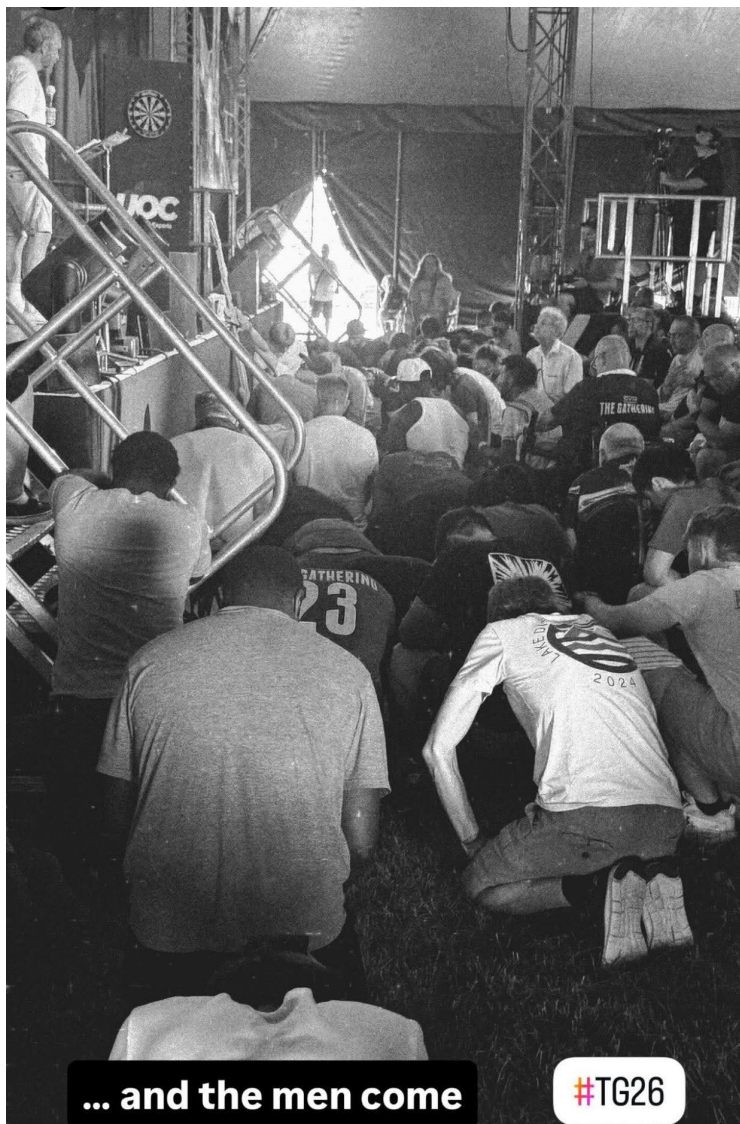
Last week, once again a team from the CPA attended the Christian Vision for Men Gathering.

The annual event brings together around 2000 men in the now internationally known location of, 'a field near Swindon'. The men who attend are from all over the UK and beyond, and from right across the spectrum from both inside and outside of the church community. The event combines Gospel centred preaching, inspiring testimonies, worship led by Graham Kendrick; and an opportunity to try activities including football, evening comedy sets, listening to a 90's tribute band, archery and queuing for an ice cream in the searing heat!

Our team exhibited in the 'Mess Tent' and were able to engage in conversations with men, some of whom said they had always found it challenging to speak to Police Officers. As a result of conversations, the team signed up a number of new Members and were able to provide literature including Inner Struggles and Police New Testaments for men who said they had family members within the Police Service who were struggling.

One conversation led to a remarkable reunion. A delegate spoke to our team at our stand and spoke about his personal mental health struggles, both as a serving officer and as a retiree. He confessed that he avoided speaking to anyone from the Police and was unsure about approaching us, to shield himself from difficult memories. He said he had served in West Mercia and Hertfordshire - the force where one of our team, Keith Evans, began his career, and that he had served at Hemel Hempstead in the 90's when Keith first joined the service. Keith realised that this man Chris, was in fact his original Sergeant from his first team and that they had not seen each other for around 27 years! Our team were able to pray for Chris who then decided to join the CPA and try to engage with his local Branch. Welcome home Chris! Keith has said that this reunion, *'made my weekend, to connect with Chris was a joyful reunion with my first Sergeant who was a Christian. God really does have a way of putting us where we need to be in a moment'*.

The weekend has a Gospel centred purpose of leading men to Christ and supporting men to be better Christians. Numerous men made a first time commitment, kneeling before the cross in the main tent. The joy of this event sits right there, men's lives changed! Our team are booked in for 2027 already - and it would be great to bring more CPA Members from across the UK to bolster our presence!



... and the men come

#TG26

A word of encouragement – Jim Hillier

In 2002 I began to serve as a pastor in Hertfordshire. As a young man of 22, I became quickly aware of my lack of life experience and ability to relate the truths of the Bible to practical and daily life! With law enforcement in my family background, I felt that the Police force may provide the experience I needed, and fulfil one of my other heart desires to serve the greater purposes of God for others.

I joined the South Wales Police in 2006 and served for 6 ½ years in Cardiff. During that time, I was given the privilege of resurrecting the CPA Branch there, and witnessing to many colleagues and 'customers' alike. I absolutely loved being 'PC 4908', and like you all, have many stories suitable for the children's talks in church, the dinner table for family - and the ones I keep to myself and talk to the Lord about, when reminded of how deeply the human nature needs the saving grace of God.

The Lord brought me out of the Police and back into serving his people as a pastor in Cornwall, where I've been for 13 years now. Like a good preacher, I wanted to encourage everyone in three particular ways:

Firstly, I increasingly realise with reflection on the last 20 years, how much the highest calling I have received as a 'son of God', must influence all I do. Even now, when I pick up my cross daily and follow Jesus, the number '4908' still has to be nailed there, in sacrifice to the greater identity in Christ. Allow me to encourage you to produce all you do in your role, from that place of identity in Him. So many of our struggles will find their right perspective and source of power when we do.

Secondly, the Lord surprised me in how He brought me out of the job. He restored compassion to my heart



through a 16 year old prolific burglar I arrested in an attic one evening! It still moves me to tears when I think of how his circumstances and my heart were brought together, to show me how much I'd lived with passion for the justice of God, but little with the compassion of God. I understand what the job can do the heart and to relationships, so maybe I can encourage you to consider how a refresher in the compassion of God for others, may inform and even direct career and life decisions that you may be facing at the moment?

Thirdly, even though I knew I'd return to pastoring one day, the usual question of "How many years have you got in?" ended for me earlier than expected. I was grieved at having to leave a job I loved [which has a more rosy coloured tint as every year passes!] Since then however, I served as a Police Chaplain for four years, and now support individual Christian Police Officers as the Lord brings us into each other's orbit. I

want to encourage you that, whether you're starting out in your role, are towards the end, or somewhere in between, seeking the kingdom of God first in all your decisions, will ensure a path that will take you through the Police and out the other side in God's timing, and with satisfaction that the Lord has used you for His purposes – seen and unseen.

My children often say to me "Tell us another police story." Even though I don't know you, I pray for you and look forward to the day we will meet to tell each other stories of how God blessed and used us to reach others with the gospel of God's compassion for us in Christ. Bless you. Jim.

See Jim as a Christian Police Officer on YouTube here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ebE4XVDOxgM&list=PLrQq9mE8Am7Rf8QaMMjkKS6PYNMtxeBp3>

And finally...

A big thank you to everyone who attended our CPA International Day of Prayer for the Emergency Services, on Thursday 25th June. A special shout out to our brothers from Italy who shared about how difficult it is being a Christian in the Emergency Services there, and about the impact mentally on our colleagues around the world. An issue that is echoed here in the UK. Simon Hewitt and Dan Clarke shared respectively about Firefighters for Christ and the Christian Ambulance Association. We prayed for our



colleagues dealing with the earthquake in Venezuela.

Every person who shared, talked about the impact of being in the

Emergency Services on our families, so it was a very special moment to be led in prayer by Luke, the young son of a serving Officer.

Now more than ever, prayer is needed for the people who serve without fear or favour. Fifty people joined us online last Thursday, and many more interacted with our social media and prayed separately. Will you agree to be a watchman for Emergency Services personnel?

To stand in the gap for those who run towards danger every day, at risk to themselves for the sake of others? See our website here for details: <https://cpauk.net/events/>

Pray for CPA

You can do so here:

<https://cpauk.net/events/>



Donate to CPA

You can do so here:

<https://cpauk.net/donate>



OUR MISSION is to

- Be a National Voice for Christians in Policing.
- Encourage and support Christians in the Police Service.
- Communicate in words and action, the truth, message and hope of the gospel of Jesus Christ to colleagues and the community we serve.
- Build bridges between the Christian community and the Police.

OUR VISION is to see

- The CPA as a national charity which actively leads on issues relevant to Christians in Policing.
- An active and growing branch of CPA in every Police Service in the UK and every Christian in the Police Service to fulfil their potential in Jesus Christ.
- Colleagues and those we serve to know Jesus Christ personally.
- Police and Churches working together in every community to reduce crime and improve quality of life.

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Chair of Council Graham Norman



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