

2016 Readiness Check!

Part 3 "Active Shooter Response!"

BEGINNING THE YEAR WITH A READINESS CHECK FOR MINISTRY!

WE ARE ALL SOLDIERS IN THE WARFARE FOR MEN'S SOULS AND THAT MEANS WE SERVE IN UNCIVILIZED TERRITORY FOR THE ONE WHO HAS CALLED US!

"WE WANT EVERY DETAIL IN OUR LIVES; WORDS, ACTIONS, WHATEVER... TO BE DONE *IN THE NAME OF JESUS...*" IN HIS NAME... SIGNED OFF IN HIS NAME...

IN FAITH... SUBMITTED TO HIS AUTHORITY, SUGGESTED BY HIS MODEL, CERTIFIED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT WITH REGARD FOR HIS NAME!

OUR WORDS AND ACTIONS SHOULD TELL OTHERS THAT WE KNOW HIM, TRUST HIM, LOVE HIM, WORSHIP HIM, COMMEND HIM AND WELCOME HIM IN LIFE!

whatcha' doin? And His watching over us... His speaking into our lives... Should be a straightening, governing, directing, and welcome idea! Especially in our topic for today... in our day...

PROTECTING THE FLOCK! PERCEPTION vs. REALITY!

Perception... Churches have nothing to worry about... Most churches have a plan... The police will take care of any issues that come up!

Reality... 63% of those polled felt their church did not have a plan for their safety... 176 violent incidents throughout the U.S. in 2014 out of 375,000 churches... Reality – Frequency is not likely to occur... 950 total incidents since 1999... 549 deaths (58% of total incidents)... 1000 total deaths and injuries...

Do we need security at Life?? YES! ARE WE CURRENTLY IN DANGER? No. Think of this as a seatbelt for the church.

"Behold, I send you out as sheep amidst wolves. Therefore, be wise as serpents and harmless as doves." **Matthew 10:16**

"Nevertheless, we made our prayer to our God, and because of them, we set a watch against them day and night." **Nehemiah 4:9**

"Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which He bought with His own blood. I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. Even from your own number, men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. So be on your guard!" **Acts 20:28-31**

Where is it most likely to occur? Out of the 950 total (some occurred multiple places on one campus). Inside the building – 31.2% Outside on ministry property or active location – 68.8% Occurred during regular scheduled event – 39.76% Occurred in off hours – 60.24%

Of the 176 incidents in 2014: 18.2% were domestic violence spillover... 26.8% were robberies... 74 total deaths (11 were under the age of 18)... 4 child abductions... Active Shooters...

Can it happen here? Over 50% happen in populations less than 10,000... Out of all the incidents in 2014 (176), only 9 or 10 were directly resolved by law enforcement... ***The rest were up to staff and members...***

How far out is the help we are depending on now? Usually about 2 to 3 minutes if in city, or more if the shift is short or the officer has to shut down another scene to respond...

How long do you think it will take an incident to happen from start to finish? Usually about 2 to 3 minutes...

HARD FACT: 33 incidents in the U.S. in 2015, resulting in 13 deaths... 2 of these deaths were in Texas – both, shots fired and one dead pastor... Most people with this information will forget it before they get home...

What can we do?? Make a plan. Train some folks. Secure some doors. Communicate.

OPEN CARRY! What is the new law?? Basically, a person who is licensed to carry in the State of Texas can carry a handgun in a belt holster or a shoulder holster. They may carry openly OR concealed.

Can they carry anywhere they want? Not just anywhere... Businesses and churches reserve the right to not allow it... Not on any school property, government court property, polling place (while voting is in session, early or regular), racetrack, or airport.

BIG QUESTION... *What is the carry policy for our Church...?*

OPEN CARRY IS THE BIGGEST NON-EVENT OF 2016 THAT BEGS AMERICAN-CHRISTIANS TO TAKE A LOOK INSIDE !

Our Policy... “All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, *but I will not be brought under the power of any.*” **1Cor 6.12** All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, *but all things edify not!*” **1Cor 10.23**

As Texans, we have the right to be licensed and open carry... As Christians we need to ask: In the era of “sell a coat and buy a sword” **Lk22.36**, does it have to be “out?”

Do we feel comfortable with “anyone” open carrying? Any ulterior motives for OC here? Versus CHL anywhere? Is something really “broken” here? Or are we “under the power?”

Though we have the rights to do many things... Not everything we *can* do is *beneficial, constructive, edifying!* We have the *grace: favor, gifts and benefits*, to make this about “conscience...” other’s... Not giving anyone cause/stumble! **Rom 14.13 Gal 5.13 1John 2.10** Not bringing offense! **Mt18.7** “whatsoever you do, do all to the glory of God.” **1Cor 10.31 Col 3.17 1Pet 4.11**

whatcha’ doin? Acknowledging our 2nd Amendment rights and Texas OC laws... No 30.07/30.06 signs here! But operating by the higher laws of love... **14.13/5.13** Keeping our campus safe... without dimming the atmosphere w/P.O.L.! “some men trust in chariots but we trust in the name of the Lord!” **Ps 20.7**

Our Plan... To survive an active shooter scenario... National “Run-hide-fight” protocol, (Adults) which emerged from run-hide-wait failure at Columbine? NO, LIFE “run-cover-fight” protocols! If an incident starts and you, and others, can get out safely – GO! Since we are in open spaces, GET DOWN, men, COVER your wives, mom’s COVER any kids! If someone standing over you, nearby, fight to protect lives!

While people are down, our carriers can have a clean line of sight! 10-20 CHL's in @ service! CHL's in kids departments! NO ONE RUNS TO THE FRONT! Most church scenario's would include the pulpiteer... Let us do our job... *I never that I would see this day but we have a policy and a plan!*