

**Fire Rescue Support exists to support fire rescue personnel  
before, during and after the call**

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**Do Firefighters Really Fight Fire?**

For years fire crews have told me about the Beast. They have gone on and on about the work they do on scene to drive that monster back into the pit. They tell stories of life threatening situations and their ability to make a difference.

But I've never seen that for myself.

You see, by the time I arrive on scene, I only see a group of guys hanging around a structure in disrepair that supposedly was on fire at some point in time. While there is usually a strong smell of smoke and what appears to be damage caused by a fire, I've never seen them putting the wet stuff on the hot stuff.



That is until the other day.

There was a call for a structure fire not too far from my home. I would have been first on scene, but there was a grass truck already in the area. In fact, I waited at an intersection and allowed two engines and a ladder truck to pass. When I arrived on scene, this is what I saw.



There it was in all its glory. FIRE! An unoccupied mobile home was fully involved. To add to the incident, there was a downed power line that was jumping and sparking like crazy.

It truly was an amazing sight. And what was even more amazing than the fire itself was to see the work of our crews. While the home was a total loss, they mitigated the impact of the fire on an adjacent home and maintained a careful eye on the power line until the power company arrived.

Yes indeed, firefighters do fight fires. And I for one am certainly glad for that.





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#### Financial Support

I am often asked how Fire Rescue Support is able to do the work it does. I serve as a volunteer with Marion County Fire Rescue and Ocala Fire Rescue. While both agencies have been very generous in providing resources for my training, I receive no salary from them for the chaplaincy.

The bottom line is that we are a faith-based ministry depending on God's provision. He has used foundations, businesses, churches and individuals to meet our needs.

Perhaps God wants to use you to support fire rescue personnel and the people they serve. Here's how your support can help:

- A gift of \$25 keeps the Dunkin' Donuts card charged for a month ready to buy a cup of coffee for a firefighter that needs to talk.
- A gift of \$100 helps a fire victim get the basic items they need so they can start their road to recovery.
- A gift of \$200 provides the resources needed to stay on the road with fire rescue personnel one more day.

Feel free to contact me to discuss becoming part of our financial support team, or [click here](#) to begin giving today.



#### CISM Training

Over the next couple of months I'll be in the following locations teaching the two core courses in the field of critical incident stress management.

Gainesville, FL (Alachua County) – August 23-25  
Miramar, FL (Broward County) – October 18-20

[Click here](#) for more information and to register.

If none of these locations or dates are convenient and you have a group of at least 15 that is interested in these courses, contact me and I may be able to set up training in your area.

#### Marion County Fire Rescue New Hires



Marion County Fire Rescue proudly welcomed five new members at a ceremony on July 15. I had the opportunity to be part of the ceremony and take a picture with the group. From left to right: Thomas Earnest, Humberto Jimenez, Benjamin Miranda, Kody Stump and Clifton Wilkerson, Jr.



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## Do What You're Told

“The commander of the LORD’s army replied, ‘Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy.’” **And Joshua did so.** Joshua 5:15

I’ve been in the business of raising children since 1989. Actually, it was 1989 when I started raising my own children. I had been raising the children of others since 1983 when I graduated from college and started my career as a teacher and school principal. One of the great joys of interacting with children is when they actually do what they are told.

The roles of adult and parent are full of challenges and difficulties. Teaching children to respond with immediate obedience is one of the most important yet one of the most elusive pursuits.

Through the years, I’ve learned a lot about myself and my relationship to God through raising children. I have glimpsed into the depth of God’s love for me when I consider how much I love my children. I’ve realized that God indeed wants the best for me when I see what I want for my children. I have recognized that I don’t understand God’s perspective when I try to tell my children that there are things I see that they don’t.

And I’ve learned the value of doing what you are told.

It’s interesting how the issue of immediate obedience is important to us as we parent, but not nearly as crucial as we follow God. We find ourselves saying to our children, “I’m not going to tell you again” but read the same passages in our Bibles over and over without a change in the way we live.

For me, more times than not, I find myself in the Lord’s presence dealing with the same issues again and again. What would it be like if I just listened to what He said? What would happen if I did what I was told?





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## Amazon Donates to Charity



For eligible purchases at Amazon Smile, the Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization. You can make Fire Rescue Support your organization by [clicking here](#). Then every time you order through the Amazon Smile website you'll be helping Fire Rescue Support continue its mission of supporting fire rescue personnel before, during and after the call.



**Thank you!**

Thanks for your interest in and partnership with Fire Rescue Support. Because of you, we have the opportunity to support fire rescue personnel before, during and after the call. Visit [www.firerescuesupport.com](http://www.firerescuesupport.com) for more information or to donate. You can also find us on Facebook. And please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance personally or professionally. You can reach me at 352-425-1643 or [joe@firerescuesupport.com](mailto:joe@firerescuesupport.com).

