



the light
in the
storm

CHAPLAINCY MINISTRIES

The Light in the Storm

The day had been blustery and cold. The rain froze as it hit the ground. Trees heavy with ice began to creak and groan under the weight of the heavy ice, finally snapping and breaking off. The sound of the snapping limbs was loud and ominous, like the sound of artillery rounds exploding in the darkness of the day and into the night. A god-forsaken, dark, stormy day in what was supposed to be a warm Spring day.

But the storm clouds opened to let the light of God's comforting presence shine through the darkness. The setting sun kissed the ice on the trees, turning them into glistening crystals of beauty, majesty and awe. The light broke through the darkness, dispelling it. Replacing the darkness was a marvelous picture of the power of God's light to transform a storm into a beautiful picture of mystery and grace.

Chaplains work in the darkness and fog of war; in the darkness of prisons; in the coming darkness of death; in the terrible, stormy loneliness of mental illness; in the twilight darkness of old age; in the dark moments of family strife; and in the darkness of a world tainted with sin.

God has given our chaplains the gifts of ministry that shine light into these dark places and transform the darkness with the light of His presence. The chaplain carries the love of Christ into the institutions and special settings of our world as servants of the Light. They go to light up the dark places of our storm filled world as "Lights in the Storm".

—Herman Keizer, Jr.

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