

MCF also supports: Service Chaplaincies:

Air Force: https://www.airforce.gov.au/our-

people/airforce-chaplains

Army: www.army.gov.au/Army-life/Health-

and-welfare/Chaplaincy-support
Navy: www.navy.gov.au/chaplains

Other Ministries:

Everyman's Welfare Services

(02) 6055 2988

www.everymans.org.au admin@everymans.org.au

Focus Military Ministry

(02)6262 6294

www.focusmilitary.org.au network@focusmilitary.org.au

Red Shield Defence Services

0466 655 098

www.salvos.org.au/rsds

Solid Rock Ministries

0412 720 069

www.solidrockministries.com.au solidrockdefence@gmail.com

Navigators Military Ministry

0416 833 632

www.navigators.org.au

 $\underline{thomas.bielenberg@navigators.o}$

rg.au

"for your love is ever before me, and I walk continually in your truth." Ps 26:3



Patron
Air Vice Marshal Alan Clements, CSC



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Military Christian

Fellowship

Equipping Defence Christians to build the Kingdom of God in the Australian Defence Force



www.mcf-a.org.au

Military Christian Fellowship

Who is MCF?

An interdenominational fellowship of all ranks from all services and civilians who seek to promote Christian faith in the ADF.

What is MCF's Mission?

- To promote Christian faith in the ADF by:
- Being a disciple for Christ
- Encouraging, supporting and developing Christians in the ADF
- Actively supporting the ministry of ADF Chaplains.

What does MCF do?

- To help members live effectively as Christians in the ADF, MCF supports:
- Local area groups
- Deployed members
- ADF Chaplains and other Christian Military Ministries (see overleaf).

What resources does MCF have?

- Crossfire Magazine (annual)
- Newsletter e-mail (monthly)
- Deployment Packs
- Small Group Aids
- MCF Defence Values Study Series
- MCF Bible Battlefield Commanders Study
- MCF Hard Questions Study Series

For more info contact the MCF Office:

CP3-1-160, Dept. of Defence, Canberra, ACT 2600 02 6212 1580 mcf.office@defence.gov.au www.mcf-a.org.au Or in your area: http://mcf-a.org.au/small-groups/

How can I be a Member?

Christians join to share the mission of MCF and receive encouragement for their own lives.

Membership is free and open to ADF members and civilians who have a personal commitment to Jesus Christ.

Donations to this exciting program can be made by donating to Military Christian Fellowship, BSB: 833-205

Account No: 20380708

Be a Centurion

As a member you can make a further commitment to prayer, finance, faith and encouragement by becoming a Centurion.

"I tell you the truth; I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith." Luke 7:9

These were the words that Jesus used to describe the Centurion in Capernaum. The Bible tells us very little about this man. We know that he was a military Christian who cared for his men, loved and served his nation, was humble, generous in supporting his local ministry, decisive, and had a very simple but rock-steady faith.

The ADF needs Christians like this Centurion!



In the Forces and a Christian . . .

is it possible?

With thanks to the Soldiers & Airmen's Readers Association, UK

On this matter, there are many views on what the Bible says. Within the beatitudes it says 'Blessed are the peacemakers for theirs is the Kingdom of God.' Mt 5.9 Some people may draw on this beatitude to display peaceful pacifist behaviour in all circumstances. Others would maintain that use of force is permissible in issues of national and international security as righteousness brings honour to a nation. The greatest challenge facing any service person is the possibility of taking a life in the line of duty.

Throughout history the sixth commandment 'you shall not kill' (Deut 5.17) has been a stumbling block to many who seek the will of God. Yet the original Hebrew confirms that a more accurate translation is, 'you shall not murder', i.e. killing on our own behalf.

Nevertheless, this is still a moral dilemma for service personnel. Provided they have acted within the law and according to conscience (if a law is evil, as some are, to act within the law is no defence), Christians who find themselves in the extreme position of having to take life will have acted justly.

The concept of the 'just war' is a mid-way position between extreme pacifist ('peace at any price') and the extreme patriot ('my country right or wrong'). In scripture, peace is frequently shown as being the outcome of righteousness, which brings honour to a nation (Proverbs 14-34).

Our attitude therefore should be one of 'righteousness at any cost, and not peace at any price'. In such a context, a member of the Defence Forces can most certainly be a true Christian, and a good soldier.