



America 250, A Legacy of Liberty

On July 4th of this year our nation will celebrate 250-year anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence marking the oldest and most unique form of self-government in human history. The Founding Fathers advanced the radical belief that every adult individual in society was equally endowed to the privileges of citizenship without beholdng to a monarch, nobility class, or religious hierarchy. The Declaration provided the basic conceptual framework upon which the United States Constitution would be built for

"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." - John Adams

"We the People..." Dr. Os Guinness is an English author, theologian, and social critic with a keen insight on American political life. He observed that the Declaration's claim of individual liberties is based on the principles found in the covenant made through Moses at Mount Sinai. The Mosaic Law instituted a covenant relationship which God created with the Israelites recorded in Exodus 19:3-7. The freedom God offered Israel at Sinai was not only release from Egyptian bondage but from the immoral enslavement of pagan gods. To be truly free Israel was to become a holy, priestly nation living out the commands of God, Deuteronomy 4:35-40; 26:16-19. Dwight Eisenhower sees a parallel for the American nation, *"Without God, there could be no American form of government, nor an American way of life. Recognition of the Supreme Being is the first—the most basic—expression of Americanism. Thus the Founding Fathers saw it, and thus, with God's help it will continue to be."*

The Declaration of Independence pronouncement regarding "that all people are endowed by their Creator with inalienable rights including life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" finds fulfillment in the U.S. Constitution. It is to the Constitution every Servicemember takes an oath to "support and defend" upon entering military service. (cont.) →

Military Ministry RESOURCES

Center for Christian Studies (CCS)

www.Christian-Studies.org

info@christian-studies.org

12407 N. Mopac Expy.

Ste 250-530 Austin TX 78758

Quality theological and biblical resources for churches and Christian leaders - biblical literacy, theological understanding, thoughtful worship, spiritual formation, and ethical living.

Essential for church renewal, they offer online video courses, the Journal of Christian Studies, "Theological Table Talk" podcast and live on-site instruction at your congregation.

No cost **Veteran Counseling**

Services from pastoral counselors are available from God's Word for Warriors. Register: <http://www.godswordforwarriors.com/contact-10/> or call (615) 430.3544 to schedule Zoom or in-person meetings. Referrals to other resources may be made when appropriate.



America 250, A Legacy of Liberty (cont.)

The dedication of our men and women in uniform goes directly to a commitment to defend the American people against any aggressor or enemy who would deny us the liberties arising from the American Republic covenant. Our Memorial Day observances with the rows of headstones in places like Arlington National Cemetery remind us of the costs of our freedoms. Military service is an expression of the covenant commitment warriors make to preserve our governance and way of life.

An essential quality of our covenant relationship for self-government in a free society includes what Dr. Guinness calls the Golden Triangle of faith, virtue, and freedom. To be truly free, faith requires virtue, virtue requires faith, and faith requires freedom. President John Adams agrees when he says, *"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."*

The AMEN Military Ministry has for over fifty years dedicated ourselves to building the spiritual character and connection for Servicemen and women. We are convinced that the Church of Christ has a covenantal obligation to minister and support the unique needs of those willing to lay down their lives for our legacy of liberty.



Help the Ministry donate monthly or one-time to provide workshops, books, and travel to promote the spiritual wellbeing of our Servicemen and women.

www.amenministry.org (Donation Tab)
AMEN Ministry, P.O. Box 353, Hebron, CT 06248



Contact Us

AMEN is a ministry of the Manchester CT Church of Christ.

Director: Dennis Saucier

P.O. Box 353 Hebron CT 06248

(860) 372-7051

amenmilitaryministry@gmail.com

AMENMINISTRY of the churches of Christ

www.amenministry.org

Editor: Laura Sachs, Sarasota, FL



GOD'S WORD FOR
WARRIORS

Tom Seals and Laurel Bowman host the God's Word for Warriors **Podcast**, a *monthly installment that seeks to encourage veterans and their families, using Scripture and faith-based principles.*

*Look for the most up to date links on their **website** at*

*www.godswordforwarriors.com/podcast and in their **monthly newsletter**.*

Topics include:

- "An Ever-Absent God;"
- "What Makes the Church a Church?"
- "The Pain of Loneliness;"
- "Veterans and Faith Communities;"
- War and Invisible Wounds"
- and more.

Also, check out their **Video library** with informative lessons on military experiences by Dr. Tom Seals, a former Marine and retired Lipscomb University Bible professor on topics dealing with:

- "War and Spiritual Injury;"
- "Why Veterans are Uncomfortable in Church;"
- "Survivor's Guilt and Forgiveness;"

Podcasts are available anytime by logging on to their website. Subscribe to newsletter below.

Donations are gratefully accepted.

Contact information:

615.964.7450

www.godswordforwarriors.com

contactus@godswordforwarriors.com



Key News

2026 Academy Graduates

Air Force Academy, Colorado

Name	Hometown	Posting To
2LT Jarrison Diles	Hampshire, TN	Flight school, Laughlin AFB, Del Rio, TX

United States Military Academy

West Point, New York

Name	Branch	Hometown	Posting To
2LT David Tirado-Alonzo	Infantry	Riverview, FL	2BDE, 10 th Mountain Division, Ft. Drum, NY
2LT Thomas (TJ) Dickerson	Aviation	Senatobia, MS	Flight school, Ft. Rucker, AL

◆ RESOURCE FOR MILITARY MINISTRY

Mission Forgiveness: The Toughest Battle to Come

By Jim Humphrey

You survived the war and other military hardships. But the hardest battle didn't end when you came home. For many veterans, the most painful wounds don't show up on X-rays or medical charts. They surface years later—in strained marriages, restless nights, buried anger, quiet shame, spiritual confusion, and a constant feeling that something inside never fully came back.

Mission Forgiveness was written for those moments.

This is not a self-help book filled with clichés. It's not therapy. And it's not about pretending the past didn't matter.

Written by a career military leader and veteran advocate working the past 14 years directly with over 2,500 veterans and spouses, *Mission Forgiveness* confronts the invisible war many veterans continue to fight long after service ends—moral injury, unresolved anger, self-condemnation, broken trust, bitterness, grief, and the spiritual questions no one trained you to answer.

At the center of this mission is a word many veterans' resist: *Forgiveness*.

Not forgiveness as weakness. Not forgiveness as forgetting. Not forgiveness as excusing what happened.

But forgiveness as freedom.

Through real veteran stories, clear language, faith-grounded truth, and practical reflection tools, this book helps you understand why forgiveness is not optional for healing—and how to pursue it honestly, without rushing, minimizing pain, or compromising boundaries.

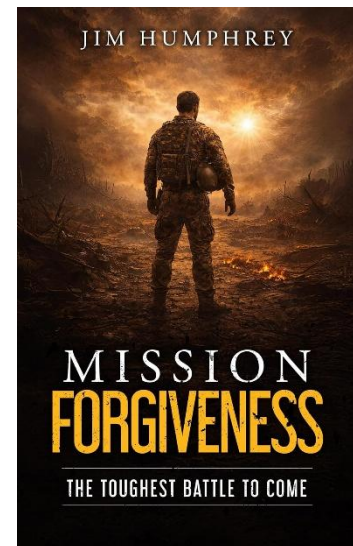
Inside, you'll explore:

- Why moral injury cuts deeper than trauma alone
- The hidden cost of unforgiveness on the body, mind, relationships, and faith
- The difference between forgiveness, trust, and reconciliation
- How anger and bitterness become "damaged armor"
- Why self-forgiveness is often the hardest front
- What to do when God feels silent
- How healing impacts family and identity
- How forgiveness becomes the first victory—not the final step

You won't be shamed. You won't be preached at. You won't be told to "just move on."

But you will be invited—to lay down burdens you were never meant to carry alone, to confront what's been avoided, and to reclaim peace, purpose, and spiritual alignment that may feel distant right now.

Forgiveness doesn't erase the past. It stops the past from controlling the future.



About the author

Jim Humphrey is a military veteran, educator, business leader, and author who has spent more than fourteen years walking alongside over 2,500 veterans and spouses as they navigate the moral, spiritual, and emotional aftermath of military service. He draws from lived experience and years of peer counseling using what he calls a light-pastoral model, to produce his latest book, Mission Forgiveness: The Toughest Battle To Come, where he writes with clarity, compassion, and credibility – not theory.



Written for veterans and the families who walk beside them, this book confronts the unseen cost of military service with honesty, respect, and hope. It does not offer clichés or quick fixes. Instead, it offers a hard-won truth: forgiveness is not weakness – it is freedom.

