





FIRST RESPONDERS



First Responders is a term used to describe the first professionally trained responders to arrive on the scene of an emergency, accident, natural or human-made disaster, or similar event.



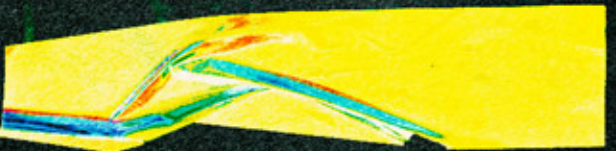
When others run from danger, first responders run towards it.




Four first responders in the Bible:




1. Moses



One day Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian. He led the flock far into the wilderness and came to Sinai, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a blazing fire from the middle of a bush. Moses stared in amazement. Though the bush was engulfed in flames, it didn't burn up. "This is amazing," Moses said to himself. "Why isn't that bush burning up? I must go see it." When the LORD saw Moses coming to take a closer look, God called to him from the middle of the bush, "Moses! Moses!" "Here I am!"

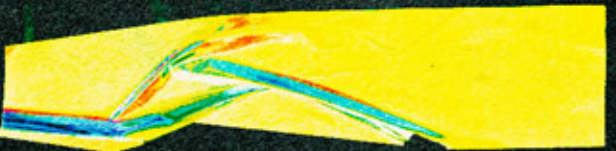





Moses replied. Now go, for I am sending you to Pharaoh.
You must lead my people Israel out of Egypt.”

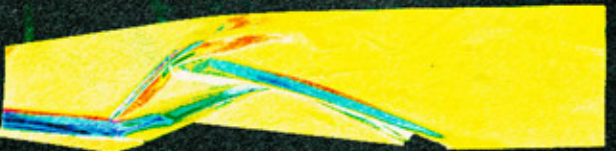
Exodus 3:1-4, 10 NLT

2. Samuel



The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was sleeping in the Tabernacle near the Ark of God. Suddenly the LORD called out, "Samuel!" "Yes?" Samuel replied. "What is it?" He got up and ran to Eli. "Here I am. Did you call me?" "I didn't call you," Eli replied. "Go back to bed." So he did. Then the LORD called out again, "Samuel!" Again Samuel got up and went to Eli. "Here I am. Did you call me?" "I didn't call you, my son," Eli said. "Go back to bed." Samuel did not yet know the LORD because he had never had a message from the LORD before.



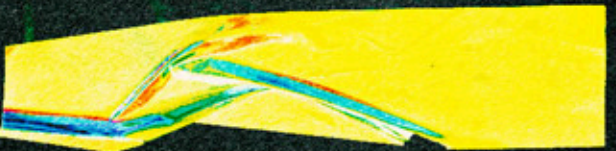


So the LORD called a third time, and once more Samuel got up and went to Eli. “Here I am. Did you call me?” Then Eli realized it was the LORD who was calling the boy. So he said to Samuel, “Go and lie down again, and if someone calls again, say, ‘Speak, LORD, your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went back to bed. And the LORD came and called as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel replied, “Speak, your servant is listening.”

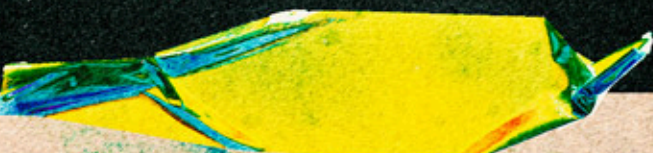
1 Samuel 3:3-10 NLT

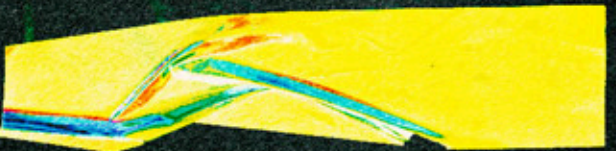


3. Paul



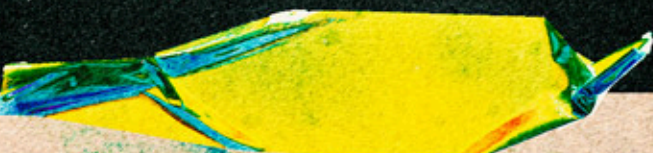
Meanwhile, Saul was uttering threats with every breath and was eager to kill the Lord's followers. So he went to the high priest. He requested letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, asking for their cooperation in the arrest of any followers of the Way he found there. He wanted to bring them—both men and women—back to Jerusalem in chains. As he was approaching Damascus on this mission, a light from heaven suddenly shone down around him.



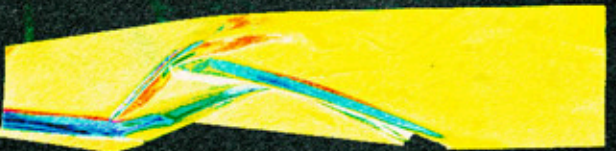


He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?” “Who are you, lord?” Saul asked. And the voice replied, “I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting! Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.”

Acts 9:1-6 NLT

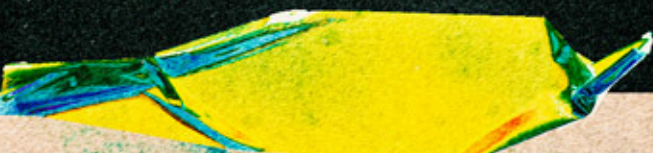


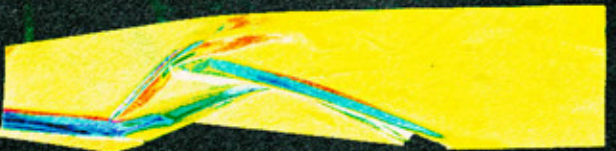
4. Jesus



Then I said, “Look, I have come. As is written about me in the Scriptures I take joy in doing your will, my God, for your instructions are written on my heart.”

Psalm 40:7-8 NLT





That is why, when Christ came into the world, he said to God, “You did not want animal sacrifices or sin offerings. But you have given me a body to offer. You were not pleased with burnt offerings or other offerings for sin. Then I said, ‘Look, I have come to do your will, O God – as is written about me in the Scriptures.’” First, Christ said, “You did not want animal sacrifices or sin offerings or burnt offerings or other offerings for sin, nor were you pleased with them” (though they are required by the law of Moses). Then he said, “Look, I have come to do your will.” He cancels the first covenant in order to put the second into effect.

Hebrews 10:5-9 NLT






We can all be First Responders



**How to be a first responder:
by noticing and meeting needs.**



And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

Acts 10:38 NLT



How does this apply to me?



**Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will
fulfill the law of Christ.**

Galatians 6:2 NIV




**Be the first on the scene with compassion,
prayer, encouragement, wisdom, faith,
truth or maybe a listening ear.**



Peace prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi:


Lord make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon; where there is
doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light; where there
is sadness, joy.





Cont.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.





Prayer for First Responders:

Lord, please protect the brave men and women in my community who serve as police, firefighters, and paramedics. Please guide these men and women and help equip them mentally, physically and spiritually to confront the scenes and scenarios set before them. I pray for strength and for Your guidance. In Jesus' name, Amen.

