

Greetings,

Last week on March 18, we heeded the advice of President Trump and Governor Wolf and suspended all services and meetings at the church. Who could fathom that a virus from Wuhan, China would develop and spread throughout the world in just 84 days? Covid-19 took 67 days to infect 100k people throughout the world; 11 more days to infect another 100k; 4 days later, another 100k; and then two days after this – yesterday - another 100k. At the writing of this newsletter, there have been over 458,662 Coronavirus cases reported in the world and 61,808 cases reported in America.

For most of us, this has been a time of quick adjustment to the protocols of social distancing which has brought so many changes to the things we tend to take for granted (like toilet paper, sports, school, vacations, travel, work and church gatherings). For many of us, myself included, the unknowns surrounding the spread of this virus and the impact that it is having have brought some fears, anxiety and sadness. It has required energy and focus on the Lord and His promises to experience the peace that guards my heart and mind in Christ (Philippians 4:7). I know in talking to many of you, finding God's peace in this season has been a process and an effort, yet I rejoice that many of you are there, waiting, trusting and abiding in His presence. I take delight in hearing how many of you are spending this time digging deeper into God's Word and moving to a greater dependence on Him.

Yesterday as I was spending time in prayer, the Lord reminded me that we are citizens of a greater Kingdom. This brought me great comfort. For although we can tend to look to this familiar world for our comfort and security, we are being reminded just how vulnerable this worldly kingdom is. However, God's kingdom is one that cannot be shaken. There is no rust, dust, moth or virus there. Truth, Justice, Righteousness, Unity, Love and Peace are all characteristics of this kingdom. The Father of heavenly lights (James 1:7) is there and there are no shifting shadows. Ever! There is no need for the sun or moon to shine on it for the glory of God gives it light and the Lamb is its lamp (Revelation 21:23).

In Matthew 6:33 we are told by Jesus to "seek first his kingdom and his righteousness," and in John 3:31 that no one can see or enter God's kingdom unless they are born again. Jesus told his followers that the Kingdom of God was near (Mark 1:15) and we know that he ushered it in through his life, death and resurrection. When we said "YES" to Jesus as our Lord and Master, we became citizens of his kingdom (Philippians 3:20) and thus, his ambassadors (2 Corinthians 5:20). As Christ's ambassadors we are called to make an appeal to those living in the kingdom of man to be reconciled to God through Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20-21).

Please use this time to center yourself in God's Kingdom. Find God's rest, peace, purpose, power, wisdom, comfort, strength and love and then share this kingdom with those around you. May the Lord be lifted up as we draw closer to him and each other, mindful that he is with us and for us.

Let me know if you want to talk more of these things,
PC



APRIL

**I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
Galatians 2:20**

Happy April! I know this past month has been a wild ride with all the covid-19 illness, but even in all the chaos, God is still on His throne and nothing can or will happen without first going through Him. As of now the schedule and activities will still go on as planned, but please do check with the church website or church office to get updates of cancellations or changes. God does not want us to live in fear, but to live with His spirit of joy because of our salvation through Jesus Christ. Wisdom must not be overlooked either, so as we continue on with life, hold everything up to God's word, compare it, pray about it, and make your decisions based off of God's direction & leading as He speaks to you.

We are very excited to start collecting donations for Tender Care in the month of May! Please drop your donations in the gray bin by the mailboxes in the lobby, or contact Faith or Matt. Thank you for partnering with us, Tender Care, and our community in this way! We hope to see everyone at the events below! Due to the closures that have occurred from the virus, we have unfortunately had to cancel the Fusion Glow Night. If we are able to reschedule this event, we will let everyone know, but if not, please know we will do it next year, Lord willing! Pastor Carl and the church leadership will be reassessing things on April 6th to figure out if we will open up to regular activities again or not. Thank you again for choosing to follow Christ.

You are a light on a hill and Jesus will use even one light to shine through the darkness. God bless, Jesus loves you and we do too!

April

April 12th: NO FUSION, HAPPY EASTER!

April 19th: FUSION 6pm-8pm

April 26th: FUSION 6pm-8pm

May

May 1st-31st: Tender Care Supply Drive (Drop donations at main church or youth room)

May 3rd: Parent Meeting (after each morning service in Music Room)

May 3rd: FUSION Birthday Game Night 6pm-8pm

May 10th: NO FUSION, HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

May 17th: FUSION 6pm-8pm, (Missions week sign up deadline)

May 24th: NO FUSION, (Memorial Day Weekend)

May 31st: FUSION 6pm-8pm, (Pizza party Tender Care Night w/ Thrivent)

***If your student (s) is involved in extracurricular activities such as sports, music, drama, etc please give me or Faith a copy of their schedules/dates if they would like us to come watch them. We love supporting our students in this way and really love seeing them in their element!**

For more information about these events please find us on Facebook at Fusion Youth Ministry, email us at fusionfbcg@gmail.com, check out our Fusion Youth table in the youth building, or see Pastor Matt.

God Bless, Pastor Matt & Faith :)

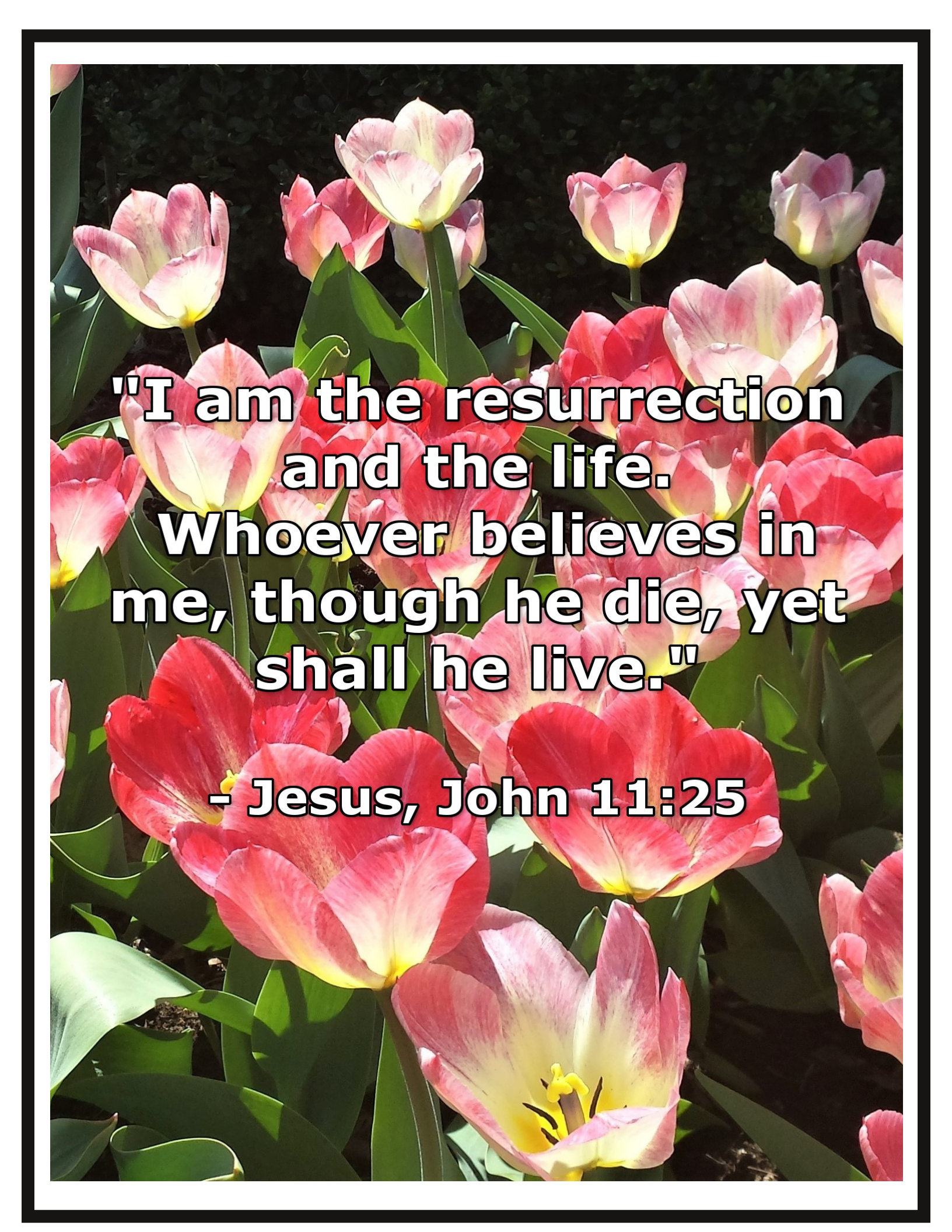
Do The Next Thing

From an old English parsonage down by the sea,
there came in the twilight a message to me.
Its quaint Saxon legend deeply engraven
Hath, it seems to me, teaching from heaven.
And on through the doors the quiet words ring,
like a low inspiration, 'Do the next thing.'

Many a questioning, many a fear,
many a doubt hath its quieting here.
Moment by moment, let down from heaven,
time, opportunity, guidance are given.
Fear not tomorrow, child of the King,
trust them with Jesus, do the next thing

Do it immediately, do it with prayer,
do it reliantly, casting all care.
Do it with reverence, tracing His hand,
who placed it before thee with earnest command.
Stayed on omnipotence, safe 'neath His wing,
leave all resultings, 'Do the next thing'.

Looking to Jesus, ever serener,
working or suffering be thy demeanor,
in His dear presence, the rest of His calm,
the light of His countenance, be thy psalm.
Strong in his faithfulness, praise and sing
Then as he beckons thee, 'Do the next thing.'

A vibrant field of tulips in shades of pink, red, and yellow, set against a dark, almost black background. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some fully open and others just starting to unfurl. The lighting is bright, highlighting the delicate textures of the petals and the green of the leaves.

**"I am the resurrection
and the life.
Whoever believes in
me, though he die, yet
shall he live."**

- Jesus, John 11:25

THE BIBLE HAS THE ANSWER

In 1904 the evangelist Rev. W. Stillman Martin was preparing to go to a church far away from the Bible school he and his wife Civilla were staying at to preach at a Sunday morning service. When his wife woke up, she did not feel good and said she couldn't go. He seriously thought about canceling when their youngest son asked him, "Father, don't you think if God wants you to preach today, He will take care of Mother while you are away"? Rev. Martin agreed with his son and went on to preach. God anointed the service and several people gave their lives to Christ as a result.

By the time he got home, his wife was feeling better and had written a text for a new hymn. Civilla also wrote the text to *His Eye Is On The Sparrow*, which Ethel Waters sung at many Billy Graham Crusades. The hymn she wrote that day was *God Will Take Care of You*. Rev. Martin wrote the music to the hymn that same night. It goes like this:

*Be not dismayed what e'er be tide, God will take care of you,
Beneath His wings of love abide, God will take care of you.
Thru days of toil when heart doth fail, God will take care of you,
When dangers fierce your path assail, God will take care of you.
All you may need He will provide, God will take care of you,
Nothing you ask will be denied, God will take care of you.
No matter what may be the test, God will take care of you,
Lean, weary one, upon His breast, God will take care of you.*

CHORUS: *God will take care of you, Thru every day, O'er all the way;
He will take care of you, God will take care of you.*

Please know in this time of uncertainty that we will get through this. For a believer, it is a win-win situation. If we make it through this pandemic, we will get to enjoy some more time on earth with our family and friends. If we die from the coronavirus, we will go to be with the Lord and get to join our friends and family who believed in Jesus and went on before us. We will be with Christ for eternity. Remember the first line of that gospel hymn, *This World Is Not My Home, I'm Just a Passing Through?* We are going to get to spend eternity with Christ. It doesn't get any better than that.

Just pause for a minute for some reflection. My grandparents got through the Spanish American War, the assassination of President McKinley, the Spanish Flu of 1918, which our doughboys brought back from Europe, WWI and WWII along with the great depression.

In 1929, when the depression started, my grandfather worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad at 30th street station in downtown Philadelphia. He had some people jumping out of windows because they lost everything in the stock market. He personally had his salary cut in half. But those people that took their lives had no hope and did not trust in the Lord to take care of them.

Since I was born in 1950, I have lived through the cold war (remember hiding under our desks?), the spread of polio until some vaccines were discovered in the middle to late 50's (how about going to a local school in the early 60's to get some doses of the vaccine in pink sugar cubes?). Do you remember the turbulent 60's with the Viet Nam protests, race riots and the assassination of President Kennedy, his brother Robert and the civil rights leader, Martin Luther King Jr.? In 1973 we had gas rationing, in the 80's we had AIDS. Since then we have been through MERS (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome), SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) and the Swine Flu (H1N1 virus).

Where do we go to for comfort and strength? It is the Bible because it has the answers. God's Word is inerrant, inspired and infallible.

We do not want to be like my grandfather's cousin from Florida who visited us one time while I was living with my grandparents while going to college. He asked him, where in the Bible does it say we have nothing to fear, but fear itself?" If you recall this was a quote from President Franklin D. Roosevelt's first inauguration address on March 4, 1933 (the last time a president was sworn into office on that date. Since then it has been January 20th.) His cousin was Biblically illiterate.

We need to be into God's Word and remember that God is in control. Nothing happens without His permission. Look for example at Job, chapters 1 and 2. Satan asked permission from God to attack Job, by taking away his children, his livestock and servants and afflict him with boils. What did Job say in 1:21? The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; Blessed be the name of the Lord. In 1:22 the Bible says "In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong".

That takes a lot of faith. Here is another example from 2 Chronicles 20: 1-30. In this passage King Jehoshaphat had several nations come against Judah. He became afraid, but verse 20:3 says he set himself up to seek the Lord. God sent a prophet in 20:15 who told the king, "Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours but God's. In verse 20:17 Jehoshaphat is told "You WILL NOT NEED to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord, who is with you (see also Joshua 1:9 and Hebrews 13:5), O Judah and Jerusalem! Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the Lord is with you". In 20:21-22 the king tells them to say "Praise the Lord, for His mercy endures forever." Now when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushes against their enemies and they were defeated.

In 2 Kings 6:8-23, the king of Syria came against Elisha because he was telling the king of Israel all the plans of the Syrian king. Elisha's servant woke up one morning, looked out the window and saw them surrounded by the Syrian army. He became greatly afraid and asked Elisha what should they do? Elisha replied, "Do not fear for those who are with us are more than those who are with them. Then the Lord opened his servant's eyes and he saw all the horses and chariots of fire around Elisha. He asked the Lord to blind the army, take them to Samaria, feed them and send them on their way. They never bothered Israel again during Elisha's lifetime.

Does God provide? Read I Kings 17 and see how God provided for Elijah and the widow of Zarephath.

I like the example of Peter in Matthew 14:29-30 where Peter begins to walk on water, becomes afraid, takes his eyes off of Jesus and begins to sink. He asks Jesus to save him. Christ reaches out his hand and pulls him out of the water. After doing this, the storm and the waves calmed down. The lesson here is to keep our eyes on Jesus. Why not trust our lives to the person who created everything? He is in control.

Pastor David Jeremiah in his book *"Living With Confidence in a Chaotic World,"* says according to Ephesians 2:10 we are not saved by good works, but we are saved FOR them. He also says we are to be blessing dispensers and hope ambassadors.

Dr. Jeremiah tells the story of when Phillip Yancey (author of *Where is God When It Hurts?*) finished a lecture someone came up to him and asked him to summarize his book as he did not have time to read it. He replied 'I suppose I'll have to answer with another question – Where is the church when it hurts?' He goes on to explain the church is God's presence on earth, His body. And if the church does its job – if the church shows up at the scene of disasters, visits the sick, staffs the AIDS clinics, counsels the rape victims, feeds the hungry, houses the homeless – I don't think the world will ask that question you asked with the same urgency. They will know where God is when it hurts: in the bodies of His people, ministering to a fallen world. Indeed, our consciousness of God's presence often comes as a byproduct of other people's presence."

The Bible has almost 400 verses just dealing with fear. So God must think it is an important topic for us to consider. Fear can be a good thing in that we might respect someone. Like Psalm

111:10 – the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Deuteronomy 4:10 talks about fearing God and doing what He tells us to do, so we may teach His ways to our children so we can have a good life.

Thom Gardner, a pastor who specializes in healing of emotional problems through counseling and teaching seminars, says that “Fear is an emotion that has the capability of shattering us, freezing us in our tracks, or melting us into ineffective paralysis. It was fear that caused the nation of Israel to shrink back from the abundant life in God’s land of promise in Numbers 13 and 14.”

Thom says that fear is the oldest and first emotion mentioned in the Bible. Adam told God, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked. (Gen. 3:10)....Fear is the strongest of all the emotions we experience.”

Fear can make us feel afraid, alone, nervous, paralyzed, cautious and indecisive. But look at the example in I Kings 19. Elijah was running for his life because Jezebel was after him for killing all her false prophets. You see God through His angels feeding Elijah and when he hid in a cave, God asked him what he was doing there? Elijah replied he had been zealous for the Lord but he was the only one left in the nation that was faithful. God replied I still have 7,000 men in Israel who are faithful to Me. YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

God tells us all through Scripture “do not fear.” Look at all the “fear nots” in the Christmas story in Matthew and Luke. Look at Jeremiah 46:27-28 where God says, “do not fear, for I am with you.” Gardner concludes his chapter on fear by pointing out that “We are not beyond God’s presence in any place or any time. Nothing catches God by surprise. He is the alpha and the omega, the beginning and the end.

So how do we deal with the fear of an pandemic? Dr. Jeremiah says we can face any direction we want but the compass will always point north. “In life, our true north is Christ. Whatever direction our world’s path may twist, however off-path it may wander, our lives should point faithfully to the one and only Lord of every place, every time, every situation.”

“Vance Havner put it this way: ‘Christians are not citizens of earth trying to get to heaven, but citizens of heaven making their way through this world.’”

“Even when the world seems to spin out of control, BE CALM: this is only how it seems. In reality, Almighty God is still on His throne, and in the words of that old spiritual, ‘He’s got the whole world in His Hands.’”

In conclusion, here are some thoughts on how to stay centered on Christ from Dr. Jeremiah: (1) Seek God’s will – take care of the things important to God and He will take care of the things important to you, (2) Search God’s Word – read Luke 10:38-42 the story of Mary and Martha hosting Jesus, (3) Support God’s work, whatever that looks like. The more we give ourselves to His purposes, the more centered on Christ we will become.

“Give Christ your mind and your heart. Invest yourself in the things that matter to Him. You’ll find there a whole new world, one ruled perfectly and lovingly by our Lord - and pretty soon, you’ll understand that the events of this earthly life are just as firmly in His wonderful hands.

Keep Looking Up,

Mark Punchard Sr.

WHEN CHURCH RESUMES AGAIN,....

BIBLE STUDY

THURSDAYS

Men's study of Ephesians - 5:30am led by Pastor Carl in his office

9:30am study of James led by Pastor Carl in Music Room

Let's Dig In together

WHEN CHURCH RESUMES AGAIN,...

SUNDAYS


Sunday School Hour

Led by McBeths @ 9am
in Lewis Hall

A series on dealing with
Stress, Anxiety and Depression
from a biblical perspective

Holy Ambition - Open discussion
in kitchen 9am

The Foundations
led by Mark Punchard
@ 10:30am



**"Come to me, all
who labor and are
heavy laden, and I
will give you rest."**

- Jesus, Matthew 11:28

ScriptureWay.com

Submitted by Whitney V. Myers (www.ScriptureWay.com)



W2 Group

**This group of Widows
and Widowers meet
on the last Sunday of
each month after
2nd service to
support and love
each other.**

Next meeting to be determined

Can You Guess The Hymn?

**The marketplace is empty,
no more traffic in the streets,
All the builders' tools are silent,
no more time to harvest wheat;
Busy housewives
cease their labors,
in the courtroom no debate,
work on earth is all suspended
As the King
comes through the gate**

What Should I Do When the Walls are Closing In?

(Christian Crisis Management – Short Bible Study)

“Do not fear or be dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours but God’s” -- 2 Chronicles 20:15

Purpose:

All of us at times either have faced or will face personal crises. Circumstances like this strike at the core of our being – physical, spiritual, and emotional. The Bible is a great comfort to us any time, but especially during difficult times. This lesson provides a way to deal with our problems that is methodical, scriptural, and effective.

Step 1: Recall God’s Promises

The first place to turn to is to the Bible. Get your attention off of your problem and on to God. Read and meditate upon God’s promises and how He has solved problems in the past. This has a vastly therapeutic effect. Examples of God’s promises include:

Deuteronomy 31:6	Psalm 37:3-5, 25	Proverbs 3:5-6	Romans 8:28
Joshua 1:9	Psalm 46:1-2	Isaiah 26:3-4	1 Cor. 10:13
Psalm 16:8	Psalm 55:22	Isaiah 40:31	Philippians 4:6-7
Psalm 23:1-6	Psalm 56:3-4	Isaiah 41:10	Philippians 4:19
Psalm 27:1	Psalm 68:19-20	Isaiah 43:2	1 Peter 5:6-7
Psalm 30:4-5	Psalm 91:1-6	Matthew 28:18-20	James 1:2-5
Psalm 34:4, 7, 19	Psalm 103:1-5	John 14:27	Revelation 21:4

Read your Bible regularly, not just when you have a crisis. Memorize scripture verses. That way, when a crisis arises, you can immediately draw upon the comforting words of scripture, and you will be better equipped to deal with those difficult situations when they occur.

Step 2: Put Your Trust in God through Prayer

Confess your sins to God (1 John 1:8-9). Then, ask God to take care of the problem. Trust God to act (Proverbs 3:5-6). Ask God to take care of the problem according to God's will, not your own (1 John 5:14-15). Pray that God will be glorified in this circumstance.

Step 3: Solicit Prayer Support from other Christians

Other Christians can bring you much encouragement by praying with you or for you. Share your request with others, and ask for their prayers. When you are "down," others can pray from strength and lift you up. "Plug in" with one or more small groups of Christians, for example, a Bible study or prayer group, or a fellowship group. Small groups can provide you tremendous personal support (Matthew 18:19-20; Galatians 6:2; James 5:16).

Step 4: Believe that God Will Act

Keep the faith. Remember that you have prayed. Keep on praying. Don't give up. Feed your faith, not your doubts. Whichever one you feed will grow (Luke 18:1-8; Mark 9:21-24; Psalm 37:5; Hebrews 11:1).

Step 5: Testify Publicly to the Results that God Provides

Tell others how God answered your prayers. By this, you will encourage other people. Jesus expects you to "go public" with your testimony about his work in your life – that God may be glorified (Matthew 10:32; Mark 5:18-20; Psalm 66:16).

Praise God that God's word never passes away (Matthew 24:35)! We can always count on God to help us through difficult times. God's promises are true and everlasting.

Whitney V. Myers

Author's note: I originally wrote this article on February 8, 1980 (as a young man). God's principles still apply today.



Hello,

John Frick was unable to join us on March 16th, but would like to pass along the following information for those who may want to plan their estate on their own. He also gives an update on what's happening with Sat7 and how the Covid-19 virus has impacted the ministry. There are websites you can visit as well as live shows you can watch. You can also email with any questions you may have.

1. Covid-19 Impact on SAT-7 Ministry

- Prioritize "live Shows". Live shows have been made a priority because through them, they can interact directly with viewers through phone, text or email to answer questions.
- Lifeline for the Church - *"Today, Resurrection Church (Beirut) is 1,000 churches. That's because every house is now a church. Through SAT-7, we can reach everyone. The Coronavirus may disperse us, but the Lord gathers us and unites us through His spirit around His Holy word."* Past Hikmat Kashouh
- People are desperately seeking out sources of hope in this dark and confusing time that our world is facing. SAT-7 seeks to be a source of light and hope, showing people God's love that can personally meet them right where they are.
- SAT-7 Turk Example: Audience responses
- It is remarkable learning that in the past 2 weeks, more viewers contacted SAT-7 TÜRK than in the previous 5 years combined!
- New Covid-19 web page <https://www.sat7usa.org/coronavirus-updates/>

2. SAT-7's Partnership with Financial Planning Ministry (FPM)

- SAT-7's John Frick www.sat7usa.org/john-frick
- Check out <https://www.sat7usa.org/webinar/>
- Offer: You can have a Trust/Will prepared at no upfront cost with a SAT-7 referral.
- Next Step: Would you "host" a virtual FPM seminar for SAT-7?

3. SAT-7 Updates – Check SAT-7 social media! One way to really help is to "like", "comment" or "share" SAT-7 USA social media posts.

- Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/SAT7USA/>
- Twitter <https://twitter.com/SAT7USA>
- SAT-7 USA YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/sat7na>
- Instagram https://www.instagram.com/sat_7_usa/
- LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/11139808/admin/>



April

Josiah Reiter - 3

Hope Plank - 4

Sam Hurda - 4

McKenna Double - 5

Kevin Filler - 8

Brianna Miley - 9

Natalie Potter - 11

Lauren Holtzople - 12

Jennefer Harris - 14

Micah McGlaughlin - 14

Stephanie Gigous - 17

Bob Conover - 18

Karen Arentz - 18

Garey Roden - 20

Tony Miley - 24

Sally Myers - 26

Jamee Conover - 28

Ruth Blinn - 30



April

Happy
Anniversary

Marty and Carolyn Tuckey - 3

Kenneth and Stacey Cooper - 15

Bob and Kathy Negro - 16

Loren and Louise Lustig - 17

J.R. and Robin Crushong - 18

Barry and Rhonda Blyler - 22

Our Ministry Team

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CHECK OUR WEB SITE & FACEBOOK PAGE
www.fbcgettysburg.net

ANSWER TO HYMN: The King is Coming

All articles for the newsletter must be submitted by the 20th of the previous month.

April
EVENTS

Normally, this page is full of the month's events. It's strange to see it blank but right now, most of what we planned for April has been canceled. May the Lord in his infinite mercy, see fit to fill our calendar in May with things that bring Him Glory.

'Now Listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will. We will live and do this or that."

James 4:13-15

Mission Update

Here is an update from our Mission Board:

The Martins: They are staying put at home for a few weeks as schools are closed. Kathy is teaching Art online and Bill is connecting with people via zoom.

As most of you know, **CARES** has been canceled.

Stephanie is also home until at least the middle of April and is trusting the Lord for whatever is next.

Sara Evans - the Disciple Maker's women's conference has been changed for this Friday and Saturday (April 3-4) to online. See her newsletter for the link.