



SERVANTS HELPING IN THE MINISTRY

March, 2020

"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."
II Timothy 1:7

Where do we begin? Like you, we have been following the news and trying to make sense of the crisis that has come to our nation through the Corona Virus or COVID-19. Make no mistake. It is a pandemic; it is serious; and only our Lord knows when this plague will pass. While our age puts us somewhat at risk, we are not as concerned with the risk as we are with the unprecedented nature of this pestilence that has gripped the world. We have not seen or experienced anything like this in our life time. I have been asked about how I am "coping" with this crisis, and I have been compelled to answer with what God has given me.

I want each and every one of you to know that we are not afraid and have certainly claimed II Timothy 1:7. God is in control, and this crisis in no way took Him by surprise. He still rules in the heavens, and He is still my King, my Lord, and hallelujah

-- my Savior. While we do not take this virus lightly, and while we recognize the seriousness of it, our hope is in the Lord as it has always been. We realize that we could very well catch the virus, even after all the precautions we are taking to prevent it, but even then we know that our eternal hope is through Jesus Christ our Lord. And so, my dear friends, we are not "coping." We are claiming the promises of God and being encouraged in Him. I wish that I could explain this, but God has truly given us the peace that passeth all understanding and it is an overwhelming peace. We are not "coping." We are counting on God to honor His word, and we are trusting Him every moment during this crisis. We are not worried. We are the children of God, and we have a great heavenly Father who is certainly caring for us every moment of every day.

I would be amiss to say that it is not disconcerting, but even with all of the bad news we are hearing and all of the uncertainty that we are facing, God has given us the following promises upon which we rest.

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SEEKING THE LOST · ENCOURAGING THE SAINTS · AT HOME AND ABROAD

“...fear not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will show you . . .”
Exodus 14:13

“Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6-7

“Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.” Joshua 1:9

“And the LORD, He it is that doth go before thee; He will be with thee, He will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed.” Deuteronomy 31:8

“Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.”
Isaiah 41:10

“Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you.” I Peter 5:7

God has been very good to us during the month of March. We were in Blackshear, Georgia on March 8. We praise God that Faith Baptist Church in Blackshear has taken us on for support. Some of our month was spent at Faith Baptist Church in Trenton. From March 22 through March 26, we had the privilege of attending the annual missions conference of Northside Baptist Church in Jesup, Georgia. We thank God for the courage of Pastor Anthony Hipps for keeping the doors of the church open, albeit with many precautions.

We ended our month at our home church in Wilson, North Carolina. Trinity Baptist

Church opened their doors for the morning service, and it was wonderful just being in the house of God.

It has been difficult staying at home, and following the orders from our Governor and the advice of our President. It has even been more difficult watching pastors make some tough decisions concerning whether or not to have services. This is unprecedented, and we ask you to pray for the countless pastors that have to come up with creative ways to reach their congregations during this time.

How is the COVID-19 crisis affecting us? We have had most of our meetings cancelled for the month of April. It could end up being all of them. While these churches have cancelled April meetings, they at the same time want to reschedule us, and for this we are grateful. Even with these cancellations or postponements, God has given us great peace, and we praise Him for His provisions to us. There is a lot of uncertainty in our country today, but one thing is absolutely certain. **GOD IS KING AND STILL RULES IN THE AFFAIRS OF MEN.**

May God use this critical time to make us better witnesses. May this crisis be used to bring about a revival in our country. And may we *“Sanctify the Lord God in our hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh us a reason of the hope that is in us with meekness and fear.”* I Peter 3:5

Pray for us as we weather this storm. Pray that God will meet our needs and keep us faithful. We are certainly praying for you.

Thank you again for your prayers, and a hearty thanks to those of you who are supporting us.

In Christ,
Scott & Marilee Norman