

CANYON CONNECTIONS



HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HANDS

How Should Christians Respond to the Coronavirus?

By Billy Ford, Pastor

A few days ago, the World Health Organization raised its risk assessment to "very high", the highest level it has. This is in response to the rapid spread of a new virus, Covid-19 (what many are simply calling the Coronavirus). Stock markets around the world have been hit hard by fears that this epidemic will become a pandemic. The US stock market just had its worst week since the 2008 financial crisis. It will probably be volatile for a while. At times like this, how should Christians think and respond? Here are a few ideas:

1. Be Peaceful

As a Christian, your primary role is to trust in the Lord and keep your eyes on Him. Scripture tells us that there will be upheavals in the world. Never panic. Psalm 46:1-2 says "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea." Later, verse 10 says "Be still and know that I am God." Like the old song says, "He's got the whole world in His hands!" Does this mean that God will never let one of His children contract a deadly disease? No, it doesn't. In fact, the first American to contract the Ebola virus was a medical missionary with Samaritan's Purse named Kent Bradley. He survived the disease, but even if he hadn't, he would be in heaven. Never fear what can only kill the body. You have heaven to look forward to. There is a time for you to go there. Until God is ready to take you home, you are invincible! If you struggle with fear of things like the coronavirus, here is another great Scripture to meditate on: "He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you" (Psalm 91:4-7).

2. Be Practical

As Christians, we are to view things from a heavenly perspective. This does not mean that we should not be practical at the same time! God wants His children to exercise wisdom. He also wants us to be people of the truth. As a result, we should never be the type of people who spread rumors and misinformation. Don't forward emails or social media memes that have not been verified as true. Don't be taken in by conspiracy theories. Some conspiracy theories turn out to be true, but

for the most part they are false and damaging. Instead of participating in that culture, do your best to be informed with true knowledge. In the case of the coronavirus, educate yourself. Here are some basics you should know about how to best avoid getting this and other viruses: wash your hands regularly with soap and water (for at least 20 seconds), maintain distance from people who are coughing, and avoid touching your face.

3. Be Prayerful

This is an important time to pray. We can follow the example of King David who prayed to stop a plague that had already killed 70,000 people in Israel: "David built an altar to the LORD there and sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then the LORD answered prayer in behalf of the land, and the plague on Israel was stopped" (2 Samuel 24:25). Pray for world leaders to have wisdom and understanding. Pray that medical scientists would have success in developing vaccines. Pray protection for your family, church, and community. And pray that God would be glorified by miracles that take place. That brings us to the last point...

4. Be Purposeful

Times of fear can serve as a spiritual wakeup call for people. Be ready to pray with people. Be ready to point people to the real reason you have peace in tumultuous times: "... Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect" (1 Peter 3:15). Also, explain to people that times like this are a reminder that things will only get worse in the future: "I looked, and there before me was a pale horse! Its rider was named Death, and Hades was following close behind him. They were given power over a fourth of the earth to kill by sword, famine and plague, and by the wild beasts of the earth" (Revelation 6:8). It is important for people to know the truth and be ready for it. They can be ready by putting their hope in Jesus, the one who "went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people" (Matthew 4:23).



Saturday, March 14th 7:00 am—Noon

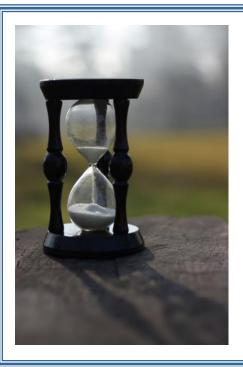
We will be accepting donations a few days before the event Clean those closets, garages and spare rooms!!

Drop off times:

Thursday, March 12, 9:00 am—3:00 pm Friday, March 13, 9:00 am—9:00 pm

All proceeds from the sale will go toward Summer Camp Funds for kids and teens.

To have money applied to YOUR camp fund, you must come and help any or all of the days listed above (the more you work the more money you'll earn)



Daylight Saving Time!

Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour on Saturday March 7th (yes, you will lose one hour of sleep).

"In the morning, O LORD, you hear my voice...." (Psalms 5:3)

See you at church!

Update from David & Shari Ogg, Papua New Guinea

Final Check of Simbari New Testament Completed

Thanks for praying for the Simbari translation checking over the last week. We are happy to report that we finished the final consultant check of the Simbari New Testament today, February 12, 2020. The checking went well and we finished ahead of schedule. Our thanks to Jason Stuart, our consultant on this check, for his contribution to the Simbari translation project through months of pouring over the text and checking our source language exegesis, checking the translated form and confirming the communication effectiveness with Simbari speakers. We are also grateful to the Simbari translation team who helped us with this check. Their names are Raymond, Klibon, Abraham and Ekim. Many other Simbari people helped in earlier stages as well. In fact we have a huge team all working together that have helped make this milestone possible. Thanks so much to all of you for the part you have played to help bring God's Word to the Simbari people in their own language!

What's next?

We will be heading into the bush to spend some time in the village to encourage the Simbari church. During that time we will be working on some adjustments to the translation based on the recommendation of the consultant. These small adjustments do not require any further consultant checking. We will also do final spell-checking on the latest books and double-checking biblical term consistencies. We have some Simbari Bible lessons to proof as well. After our time in the bush we will be returning to the states to prepare the finished draft for printing.

Thanks again for praying! We will keep you posted on the progress.





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Sign up for this Financial Peace University group today!

Group Link: www.fpu.com/1115819

Coordingtor: Pastor David Beaver

Day/Time: Mondays 7:00pm - 8:30pm

Location: BCC - Youth Room/B7

Contact Info: david@bc-church.com

Start Date: May 4, 2020

Dates to Remember

- March 7 Daylight Saving Time
- March 8 101 Class
- March 15 Baptism
- April 4 Church workday
- · April 10 Good Friday Service, 7 pm
- · April 12 Easter Sunday
- · April 24 thru 26 Ladies Retreat at Thousand Pines
- May 4 thru June 29 Financial Peace University
- June 22 thru 26 Vacation Bible School
- July 19 thru 24 Summer Camp at Thousand Pines



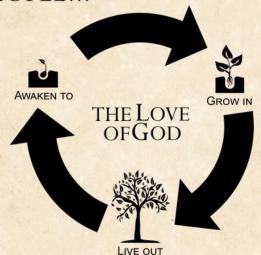
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 10:20a Prayer Meeting	3 6:45p Men's Bible Study	4 4:30p Homework Club 6:30p - Rooted Stellar Kids Junior High Adult Studies High School 8:30p Young Adult Grp	5	6 2p Primetime Life Group	7 6:30p Harp & Bowl Intercessory Prayer
8 9 & 11a Worship Baptism Class 9:30a Teen Sunday School 10:40a 101 Class 1p Copperhill Life 6:30p Saugus Life Group	9 10:20a Prayer Meeting	10 8:30a Ladies Connect Group 6:45p Men's Bible Study	11 4:30p Homework Club 6:30p - Rooted Stellar Kids Junior High Adult Studies High School 8:30p Young Adult Grp	12 9a-3p Rummage Sale Drop-off 7p Leadership Board Meeting	13 9a-9p Rummage Sale Drop-off 2p Primetime Life Group 7p Jr High Painting	14 7a Rummage Sale
15 9 & 11a Worship Baptisms	16 10:20a Prayer Meeting	17 6:45p Men's Bible Study	18 4:30p Homework Club 6:30p - Rooted Stellar Kids Junior High Adult Studies High School 8:30p Young Adult Grp	19	20 2p Primetime Life Group 7p High School Nerf Game Night	21 6:30p Harp & Bowl Intercessory Prayer
22 9 & 11a Worship 9:30a Teen Sunday School 1p Copperhill Life 6:30p Saugus Life Group	23 10:20a Prayer Meeting	24 8:30a Ladies Connect Group 6:45p Men's Bible Study	25 4:30p Homework Club 6:30p - Rooted Stellar Kids Junior High Adult Studies High School 8:30p Young Adult Grp	26	27 2p Primetime Life Group	28
29 9 & 11a Worship 9:30a Teen Sunday School	30 10:20a Prayer Meeting	31 6:45p Men's Bible Study				

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OUR PURPOSE AS A CHURCH IS TO DO THREE THINGS REALLY WELL. WE HELP PEOPLE...

Awaken to the love of god,
Grow in the love of god, and
Live out the love of god.



OUR CORE VALUES SUPPORT OUR PURPOSE AND HELP TO MAINTAIN A HEALTHY AND BALANCED MINISTRY.

Guard your <u>heart</u> above all else, for it determines the course of your life.
- Proverbs 4:23

IT IS OUR AIM THAT THE "HEART" OF BCC'S MINISTRY WILL BE CHARACTERIZED BY:

HARVEST VISION – We will keep our eyes on the harvest fields, those who don't yet know God in the sphere of influence He has given us (John 4:35).

EMPOWERED MINISTRY – In order to be a help and blessing to all people, we will operate by the love of God, consistent prayer, excellent training, and the gifts and power of the Holy Spirit (Luke 4:18).

AUTHENTIC WORSHIP – We will love and honor God by living lifestyles of genuine worship, faith, and Christ-likeness. We will not simply offer our community a philosophy, but will be a place where people can experience genuine encounters with the true and living God (Matthew 22:37).

RELATIONAL COMMITMENT – We will be a dedicated spiritual family, devoted to one another and maintaining a culture of love, grace, and forgiveness (Romans 12:5).

TRUTHFUL TEACHING – Devoted to the truth of God's Word in Scripture, we will present it in a way that makes sense and helps people to grow into spiritually mature disciples (1 Timothy 4:13).