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“These things have I spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.” John 16:33

We pray everyone is staying safe during the virus outbreak. The media continues to paint a bleak picture of the situation. We don't doubt the seriousness of the virus, but God is bigger than the virus. The precautions that have been recommended are not unreasonable in most cases. God knew this was going to happen long before we did, and we trust He will see us through it. He is a great 'recycler' and could turn this all around and use this for His glory. I remember how our country was in the days after September 11, 2001. We came together as 'one nation under God', churches were packed and there seemed to be a spirit of unity. Then we went back to business as usual. We can only pray and hope that once this virus is gone this doesn't happen again.

Larry spent three days ministering at the Tucker Unit in Tucker, AR in February. He taught in the 1A Barracks on one of those days. On February 8, we went to the ABATE swap meet and bike show in Little Rock. We have been going to this event for at least twenty-four years. We enjoyed visiting with some friends there. The last few years the number of vendors has declined as well as attendance and this year was no exception. One of our brothers who is a member of the sponsoring district said this could be the last year for the event. He and Larry agreed that many of the younger riders don't understand the importance of supporting ABATE. As they were talking, I thought about how important it is to pass our Biblical values and beliefs to our children, grandchildren, etc. The Great Commission tells us to go into all the world and make disciples. What better place to start than in our own homes?

Larry ministered at the Tucker Unit once in March. As of March 24, the ADC is not allowing volunteers to go into any of the units. We understand their concern and have been praying this virus will not infect the prisons. We know this is a stressful time for the inmates. They are concerned about their families and how quarantines and closings are affecting them. We are thankful we can still write to them.

Speaking of letters, I want to share portions of a couple letters we got recently. One was from a young man that we have been sending postcards, birthday and Christmas cards to for eight years according to him. His aunt contacted us on Facebook and asked us to write to him. The letter we got a few weeks ago was the first letter he has ever written to us. Right before we got his letter, I had been wondering if our letters and cards really mean anything to the men or if we were wasting our time. His letter confirmed that we are not wasting our time. He apologized for never writing to us and told us his aunt has never written to him. She had told us to tell him she loved him and was praying God would touch his heart and give him peace. He said the fact she never wrote hurt him and confused him. He said our cards always made him feel good and thanked us for taking the time to write and let him know he was remembered. He also said that he has never found that peace his aunt prayed that he would. I wrote back to him and thanked him for his letter and gave him some Scriptures that I hope will help him find peace with God.

Not long after that, we got a letter from a young man that usually writes to us a couple times a year. He is another one that we send postcards, birthday and Christmas cards to. His birthday is in December so last December we sent a birthday card and a Christmas card. He said this was especially meaningful because he was in the hole and having a difficult time dealing with his situation. I sent a newsletter with the Christmas card and this was when he found out about my battle with cancer. He said he was inspired by the way we used a misfortune to witness for the Lord. He thanked us for the encouragement, inspiration and example we have been to him and others throughout the years. He said we have truly been a blessing in his life. These letters came at the time when I really needed some encouragement to keep on sending cards and writing letters. Sometimes letter writing is easy and other times I am at a loss for words. And I have learned over the years too that sometimes they just want someone to 'listen' to them as they put their heart and feelings in their letters.

Some of the rallies we had planned to attend have been cancelled or rescheduled. We were planning to go to Bike Week in Myrtle Beach, SC in May. We will have to wait and see what happens with this rally. And I know the men at Tucker Unit will be glad to see Larry when they allow volunteers to come back in. One of the last times he was there, he talked to an inmate that is a biker. His son is also serving time at Tucker. He told Larry that he is concerned about his wife because the church she belongs to is more like a cult than a church. Knowing Larry, he will look this man up when he can go back to Tucker and continue this discussion.

Larry has been a volunteer in the ADC prisons for twenty-one years this April. We have seen many changes over the years, but we know God has called us to minister in the prisons and motorcycle rallies. We will continue doing this until God tells us otherwise. We appreciate all of you who have supported us over the years with your finances and prayers. We couldn't have done it without you.

I had a twelve-week check-up with my oncologist on March 24 and got a good report, praise God! My next appointment is in June.

Let's continue to pray for not only our country and our leaders but all those in the world who have been affected by the virus. Thank God for our doctors, nurses, other medical staff, truck drivers and those keeping the grocery stores stocked. Pray for those who are out of work, small businesses and restaurants who are trying to stay afloat. Check on your neighbors and make sure they are okay. We are blessed to have wonderful neighbors who are willing to help each other. Get outside and enjoy some fresh air and sunshine if you can. It can be very uplifting.

This time of the year always reminds us of our brother in Christ, Bro. Bert Aguilar. He refused to use the word 'Easter' and if someone used it, his response was 'no stinkin' Easter bunny died on the cross for you'. Jesus died for us and rose again. We serve a risen Savior and nothing can change that! Happy Resurrection Sunday.

Blessings and Peace,

Larry and Kathy