

June 30, 2020

Monthly Support Report

Dear Elders,

Greetings as we approach July 4th not too many days from now. It's my hope and my prayer that my report finds all of you well and safe from this horrible virus. Our governor just announced new guidelines for the state of Kansas that begin almost immediately. I believe she stated that they begin this coming Friday at 12:01 am. I'm not absolutely certain as to what that means. I listened carefully and I know what I heard, but supposedly some of the counties are going to attempt to override her guidelines with their own. I could live to be 200-years-old and I'd still not understand politics. A governor says and mandates one thing and then counties say they're going to do something else. Or maybe I do understand politics better than I think I do. I've seen similar thinking in the religious world all of my life. God says one thing, but man thinks he has a better way.

One thing our governor did say that I found to be interesting is this. I'll state this and then I'll be quiet about politics and COVID-19 (I think). She is mandating the wearing of masks in public. Lots of people have opinions about masks so I won't get into that. But, in favor of wearing a mask is that while COVID cases have increased, places such as barber shops, nail salons, dentists offices and beauty salons where masks have been mandatory have not contributed to the COVID spike in new cases.

The work here goes well. Attendance has been good. Actually a little better than I anticipated. We are doing our very best to practice social distancing although it's very difficult to do. It's very easy to get relaxed when you're around brethren. You want things to be back to normal and you have so much you want to

say to one another. But, we're doing the best we can. There's the occasional handshake. Even then we kind of catch ourselves and pull back so as to be as safe as possible. It's very hard to hold back. However, holding back in this virus environment is the right thing to do for the safety and welfare of everyone.

I think I mentioned the last time that we are still doing ZOOM. We now have 4-members whose doctor has told them they should avoid crowds due to their weakened immune system. So, each week they are with us via ZOOM. As a Bible Class teacher it's taking some getting used to because I carry a telephone with me as I walk throughout the audience and in many instances I'm repeating what someone has said or asking them to repeat it so those listening in can hear the comment or question. It's getting easier each week. I don't mind and it's worth the extra effort to help our members who cannot attend. We have extended our class time in order to accommodate the extra time it takes for us to do the things I mentioned above. It's just audio and not video. It would have cost us money we don't have to do video. We anticipated somewhere in the neighborhood of \$2,000 for video. Audio is working just fine. And do you know what. Any extra effort I have to go through is minor when I hear how thankful those who are shut in are. And trust me, they express their thankfulness every week. They are full of gratitude. I'm blessed to hear and read about how thankful they are. I only wish I could do more for them. They do make comments and ask questions via email and we correspond about the Bible Class material that way. But for me, that's just a blessing to be able to communicate with them about the Class. You know, sometimes we take a lot of things for granted until it's taken away from us don't we?

We're on our last lesson. It's about the Resurrection of our Lord. What a powerful lesson it's been. It's been one of my favorite lessons that I've studied in a long time. I'm thankful that we chose this material. The comments from the members has been so positive about the material and the comments in class have

been fantastic! We're going to follow-up with a study of the Acts of the Apostles. I'm looking forward to that study. One of our goals will be to put a time-stamp on every chapter. As best we can.

Well, that about does it for this month. Aaron has applied to Western Kentucky and has been accepted. He already has a list of his classes for Mechanical Engineering. He's pretty excited. I'm very proud of him. He just received his AA from Florida College in the mail the other day. Due to COVID he will miss a graduation ceremony. FC is planning one for sometime in August I believe. But Aaron won't make the trip. He will have other graduations to attend. Plus, there's the job of moving to WKU coming up around that time. I believe classes begin at WKU around the 3rd week of August. We're looking forward to him being much closer to home.

Thank you for your fellowship in the gospel and for your friendship and encouragement. And thank you for the work that you are doing in the Kingdom of the Lord. Your work is encouraging.

God bless.

Randy