

### Coronavirus Update:

I told everyone on Sunday that I would surely have to provide updates and amendments regarding what was happening in our country and how that would affect our ministry. Things are changing and happening so fast that the leadership here at MBC found it necessary to talk today about what we want to do moving forward. It is our desire to please the Lord above all and to keep our people safe, particularly those who of higher risk during this time. I was at the hospital yesterday and it was eye opening to see how seriously all of this is being handled by those in authority.

Again, as Christians we are not to fear or panic, but we want to trust the Lord and see Proverbs 3:5a played out in "shoe leather" in our lives. So here is where we are as a ministry.

- 1.) We met with all of our parents and students from our Christian School this morning and the kids took their books home to begin at least 3 weeks of home schooling. Mr. Shaver and Mrs. Jackson are here every day to field calls and questions from the students as the students work from home. ZCS will not be in session until at least after April 3 and perhaps even longer. Pray for our parents, students and staff at ZCS.
- 2.) Yesterday Governor DeWine urged every one over 65 to stay home. Since a good portion of our church is over that age, we have decided after much prayer and discussion to cancel our services on Wednesday March 18 and all services for Sunday March 22. This was not an easy decision to make, nor one that makes us comfortable, but not much about this whole thing makes us comfortable. We as elders surely do not want to put ANY of our people at risk and the information that we are getting at this time seems to suggest that we should not be together for these services. Please spend this time in prayer with your family, read your Bible--Genesis 39 was our text for Sunday, Joseph and the test of purity that he faced. Exodus 20 and the 10 commandments was the text for Wednesday evening, perhaps you could review those texts.

If you should need anything of course we (Pastor Chris, Jeff Norris) will be available to help you. I believe that perhaps this time can be used as a time to reach out to those who need the gospel. Cathy and I were at the grocery the other day and we found ourselves in the longest line I have ever been a part of in my life--and after a while I going up and down the line talking to people, sharing a kind word with them, talking to several of them about the Lord and their needs--and they were all VERY receptive, more receptive than I have seen in a while. Perhaps God is seeking once again to get our attention as a nation and we should be seeking to faithful in holding forth the Word of Life!

Please know that Cathy and I love you and we are praying for you all.

Pastor Chris Brown  
Romans 8:35-39