

To the elders,
Friday, July 31, 2020

Greetings Brethren,

Hope the end of the month finds you well, staying safe, and continuing the work of God in the community.

Please excuse the formatting this month; Laura and I are currently on the road in Texas visiting family, so my normal templates are back home. But I'm glad to have a week to travel and visit family. We will be back in Kimberly for worship on Aug. 9, and have continued holding our online adult Bible class remotely while we've been away.

We continue to follow safety precautions here, assembling on Sunday mornings with masks and distancing in place, while holding Sunday and Wednesday bible classes online. The ladies here are also hosting an online class for the kids each week, which seems to be going well.

At this point, we continue to meet in small numbers, with several of our members suffering from ongoing illnesses and conditions that make them high risk for COVID. As a result, we have had a couple of instances where vacation or other travel has left us shorthanded – in fact, this month I actually had to conduct the entire service myself, which was a first!

We are still unable to do public studies, obviously, which has severely limited opportunities for evangelism. At this point, I'm trying to get our teaching online and visible through the website and through social media, and hoping that will spark conversations or opportunities to discuss further. Ultimately I do believe we have a unique opportunity to bring Christ to people during a time of true uncertainty, but the mechanics of how to get in front of those people is difficult, and I'm open to suggestions.

In the meantime, we continue with the online Romans study, and have begun our class on authority, which at this time is a closed Zoom meeting. I'm hopeful that I'll be able to create some materials at the end of this class which I can use in the future as reference or as teaching tools, since this is the first class in which I've extensively taught on authority.

I've also begun a series of lessons on the Sermon on the Mount, which has been exceedingly challenging for me from an application standpoint. It has amazing depth of material, but also demands a high standard of each one of us, and one that we often fail to meet.

Praying that you're all doing well. I appreciate so much your love for the Lord and your desire to work with preachers in spreading the gospel and strengthening the smaller local groups around the world. Please pray for me and Laura that our work here will bear fruit and that God will take us wherever we're needed!

In Christ,

Paul Hammons