



March/April, 2020

Dear Awana Ministry Partners (AMPs),

Just think, a few short weeks ago, we were concerned about the impact that Spring sports would have on our Awana Club and church attendance. Now our concern is about "social distancing," "remote learning," and washing, "really washing" our hands. For some of us, there is also the daily, somewhat depressing reminder that we are in the vulnerable age group, the "elderly" group. I guess I prefer to put a little better spin on the classification and prefer to be designated as the "a little closer to heaven's glory" age group. No more handshakes or hugs, no more fist bumps or pats on the back, six-foot social spacing and no groups larger than 100 people, make that 50 people, make that no more than 25 people, make that 10 people, well everybody just stay home until who knows when.

Yet, we cannot recall in any of the Virus Updates calling upon our nation to pray. Praise the LORD, for the Great Physician is still on the throne, still answering prayer, and will work all things, even the virus, for HIS eternal purpose and glory. Our granddaughter sent us a text that reminded us how God instructed Israel concerning HIS promise of deliverance found in Second Chronicles 7:14 "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." Our hope is not in social distancing, facemasks and gloves, or vaccines, but in an eternal Great GOD and heavenly Father. Our prayer is not only for deliverance and healing of our land, but that this pandemic would turn people back to GOD, that it would stir our ministries to see the fields white unto harvest, and raise up more laborers that would impact our communities in a way far greater that the virus could ever impact them.

During the shutdown of our schools, churches, and Awana Clubs, may we prepare our hearts and minds for any opportunity to reach out to the children and families in our communities, particularly those already touched by our current ministries. And, may we be ready to give an answer to all who ask for the reason for the hope that is in us (1 Peter 3:15). Please consider reaching out to the families of your Awana kids to encourage the kids to keep on working in their Awana handbooks, to encourage parents to set aside a time to review the handbook sections and to pray, and to ask for special prayer requests and seek opportunities to serve our LORD during this trying time.

We also want to extend special THANKS to all our Awana Ministry Partners for their continued prayers and support. Awana HQ has put all Awana missionaries on travel restriction during this virus period, and we struggle with relational ministry from in front of a laptop or simply on a phone. This is no doubt further evidence that we are in the "vulnerable elderly" age group, that prefers face-to-face ministry, particularly when it comes to the Awana ministry. We love visiting and encouraging the kids and the Awana Leaders that are at the forefront of the Awana Club ministry. Please pray that we will use this time wisely and effectively as we labor together with you to reach MORE.... more churches reaching more children and their families for Christ in their local communities and literally around the world.

Pastor & folks @ Camp Creek

Thanks for your
prayers & support!

And, stay safe!

in HIS service....

....for HIS glory,

Bill & Dee

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