

Greetings to my wonderful Church Family:

Over the last several weeks the topics for the messages have been:

- **The God Who Sees**
- **The God Who Hears**
- **The God Who Knows Us**
- **The God Who Calls**

And today, “The God who Equips”. This series is not a coincidence or an accident, our God knew what we would be facing. None of the impacts of the Coronavirus are unknown or overwhelming to the God who sees, hears, knows, calls, and equips. Our God is present with us. He even hears our prayers when we have no words. He hears the groanings of our hearts.

Hebrews 13:20-21 NIV

²⁰Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, ²¹equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Corrie Ten Boom said: “Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God.”

God is faithful, trustworthy, merciful, giver of grace, He is love. He is ABLE.

God equips us for His purposes. God desires to partner with us in accomplishing His purposes; Some means through which God the Holy Spirit equips us are:

- The reading and studying of God’s word and applying it to our everyday lives. – For those of us that are pretty much confined to our homes this may be an opportune time to spend time reading and studying God’s word.
- The reading of Christian literature both non-fiction and fiction
- Praying – talking with God: God loves His children and desires to talk with each one of us and that, continually. He doesn’t get tired of

hearing from us. Right now there are many who need to know that we are praying for them: those who have lost jobs, those who are working super long hours and not in safe environments, our leaders, those faced with decisions like they have never had to make before. Let's allow God to equip us through time spent in talking with Him

- Difficulties help to equip us. They help to shape and form us – leaning on God through the tough times and depending on Him to show us the way through is a reminder that God is ABLE whatever the circumstances

Over and over again in God's word we are reminded of God's faithfulness in difficult times:

- ❖ Daniel and the lion's den – Daniel trusted and God closed the mouths of the lions. Daniel still experienced the unknownness of being thrown into the pit with the hungry lions but he also experienced God's making a way when there seemed to be no way.
- ❖ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego – God was in the midst of the fiery furnace with them – again their trust in God enabled them to withstand one of the greatest test of their lives
- ❖ David was prepared to be a king in first being a shepherd in charge of the safety and well-being of a flock of sheep. He learned God is trustworthy.
- ❖ Joseph was prepared to save nations through dependence and trust in God through seemingly unfair and awful circumstances: sold into slavery, betrayed by those who should have loved him most, unjustly accused and imprisoned and yet through the years of hardship and trial he leaned hard on God and God ultimately used him to save the Egyptian and the Israelite nations

God does not leave us alone. Even in the middle of a coronavirus God will equip us

Psalm 54:4 New International Version (NIV)

⁴ Surely God is my help;
the Lord is the one who sustains me.

Psalm 9:10 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁰ Those who know your name trust in you,
for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you.

He is the God who sees, hears, knows us, calls, and equips. He will never leave us. He is not abandoning us in the middle of this storm. Lean hard on Him. Rest in the knowledge He is faithful!

If you do not know Christ personally now is a wonderful time to admit your need of His forgiveness for sin, believe that Jesus is the son of God and He died on the cross for your sin and was raised from the dead and through Him you can have eternal life. And then confess Him as Lord of your life.

God is Able!