

## Physical and Spiritual Survival

First let me say how much I love our Church family and I miss seeing all my brothers and sisters in Worship. This has been a very hard year. We have had numerous illnesses and deaths, but we have also witnessed the baptisms of others giving their lives to Jesus and being added to the Lord's Church and our Church family.

Covid-19 has ushered some of us into a fearful place in life. A year ago it was essential to follow some guidelines when the pandemic hit to keep us physically safe, but as we have moved forward with new procedures, medicine and vaccines our survival rate percentages have increased greatly according to the CDC. If you are 0-70 you have a 99% survival rate. If you are over 70 your survival rate is 95%.

What is our Spiritual survival rate? Because some have neglected to **be on guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong (1Corinthians 16:13)** their survival rate spiritually is very low. Some are led by fear not precautions. The Bible tells us in **2 Timothy 1:7 that God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, love and a sound mind.** We have taken precautions over the past year to physically protect ourselves by frequent hand washing, wearing a mask or being 6 feet apart from others. A year ago that may have been what we needed to do, but with the survival rates so high it is time to renew our thinking and not let our freedom of religion be taken away.

We need to start living again. Great lengths have been taken to protect ourselves physically, now we need to start protecting ourselves spiritually.

A year ago we were sad because we could not worship together. It seems that a year later worshipping together does not seem so important. The test is if we can go to work but not to worship do we care? If we can spend time on Facebook, but not in God's word, do we care? If we have time to talk to our friends on the phone or social media, but no time to talk to God, do we care? If we are physically able to Worship in person or go to a Bible study on Wednesday night, but we choose to do something else, do we care?

God loves us and showed his great love for us by giving his only son to die for our sins and save us. How can we show God how much we love him? God wants us to seek first His kingdom.

**Matthew 6:33, But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added to you.**

If you find that you are physically able to come together with your church family to worship, but it is more convenient for you to stay home and watch on YouTube or Zoom, then please consider we all need one another to stay strong in the Lord and to grow spiritually. Others need your encouragement and you need others to encourage you. It all comes down to **Deuteronomy 6:5, Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.**

Let's stop living in fear. Let's stop just protecting our physical lives and start making the effort to protect our spiritual lives. There is strength in numbers. When we sit at home alone that is when Satan steps in and starts working his evil schemes. Let's feed our souls and grow stronger and healthier spiritually together.

**ECCLESIASTIES 4:12-THOUGH ONE MAY BE OVERPOWERED, TWO CAN DEFEND THEMSELVES. A CORD OF THREE STRANDS IS NOT QUICKLY BROKEN.**

In prayer and love,  
Glenda Kodrich

Contact Kelsy Harbin with any changes or additions to the announcements and prayer requests, her phone number is 304 – 834 – 2715.

### **Shut in/Sick List/Prayer Requests**

- Trina Smith has breast cancer. Continue to keep you in her prayers.
- Susie Addis just had a pacemaker put in, please pray for her healing and that it will work properly.
- Barb Kendall is having some tests done, please keep her in prayer.
- Please pray for Angie Barnett (Kelsy Harbin's cousin) she has COVID-19 and is in the hospital fighting it with pneumonia in her lungs as well.
- Kim Mullen has a pinched nerve in her neck area, please pray for relief and healing.
- Continued prayers for Stephen Beck as he battles cancer.
- Continued prayers for the Craddock family.
- Jeff and Monica McNutt are going through fertility treatments to have a child, please pray for them.

Each week I'll be putting a few bible questions at the end of the letters we send, I'll share the answers to this weeks questions in next weeks letter and so on.

11. Who inherited Elijah's mantle?
12. What prophet was a hairy man and wore a leather belt?
13. What boy had a variegated coat?
14. Who had a seamless coat?
15. What woman made her little son a coat every year?

Last weeks answers:

6. Where does it tell about a shore dinner for eight persons? John 21.
7. Who killed his brother for humbling his sister? Absalom. 2 Sam. 13.
8. What woman tried to seduce a handsome young slave? Potiphar's wife. Gen. 39:6,7.
9. Who had three hundred concubines? Solomon. 1 Kings 11:1-3.
10. Who had camel's-hair clothes? John the Baptist. Matt. 3:4.