Greetings!

“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean.” Matthew 23:25-26

We are still in the period of Lent and what an interesting time it is turning out to be. It has become a time when we are being forced to go back to basics. We have been placed face to face with our mortality and the understanding that tomorrow is promised to no man. Each day is another precious day to continue breathing and living without Covid19 in our bodies. We are realizing that we are part of a family, community and world as we are confined to home with people we’re only used to seeing a couple minutes per day and as we hear the news of more deaths from the disease. Our faith is being put to the test as we sift away what’s useless and trying to hold on to that which lasts.

The Ministry of Health has advised that to reduce the risk of spreading the Coronavirus we must maintain a safe distance apart, stay at home if sick and almost constantly clean our hands with sanitizer, soap and water, and alcohol to kill the germs. Germophobes are considered normal right now.

And in the midst of this, the thought comes to mind that it’s good to clean up on the outside to reduce the spread of the virus but what about the inside of our bodies?

Some will change diets and eat healthier. Some may exercise and get that summer body and that’s all good but what about our spiritual health? Many people have been consumed by fear of contracting the disease as it may lead to death and they are unable to draw on the truths from the Bible learnt over the years, the basic being “I will never leave you nor forsake you”. The Lord has commanded that we be “strong and courageous”. Romans 8:28 – And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.” “Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.” Yes, now is the time to draw upon what we have “writ on our hearts” which is hopefully the word of God and not just Facebook, Insta or Snapchat posts or Candy Crush and unlimited texting. It is also important to remember that our existence here on earth is not just to have a great time but to glorify God’s name in whatever way He chooses.

Paul says in Philippians 1 “For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain…”. The truth is, it’s a win-win situation if we’ve accepted Jesus as our personal savior and are looking forward to receiving eternal life upon the expiration of our bodies.

Coming up with a vaccine for Covid19 would be great. Let us pray for that but let us not put all our trust in that right now. Instead praise God who is just, who heals, who teaches, who walks with us every step of the way. Don’t lose hope for he hears our every prayer and knows our heart. Bless His holy name.

It means that all aspects of our being need to be working together in this effort or we will still end up sick and miserable instead of either free from the disease or infected but able to ride out our storm knowing that we have a God who is a friend like no other, a doctor, a healer, a gracious God who provides for our every need, even those we don’t plan for.

Surrender all to God.

May you and your entire family be blessed

Contributed by

Mrs Carol Madden