



# THE WITHERSPOONS

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## PRAYER REQUESTS

1) Please pray for the current Fall 2020 Perspectives classes that have just started. Whether the class meets in person or by Zoom, that God would be glorified and that many will be drawn to the mission field and bring the love of Jesus and the hope of salvation.

2) Please pray for Abigail as she will be moving to Texas this month. She has a wonderful church already lined up and Christian roommates too. Pray that she finds a good job and that she trusts God in the process.

Thank you!

## Hello

### Missions in the age of Coronavirus

#### A time of Unprecedented Opportunity

The COVID-19 pandemic creates unique and unprecedented opportunities for God's kingdom to advance. With the many challenges comes a tremendous chance to multiply disciples in new ways. We can step into this historic moment with bold confidence in God's power to give us new kingdom ground. We are at a unique time in history. Yet the command of Jesus to go and make disciples has not changed.

"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28: 18-20. The Great Commission is not a time-sensitive command. We are only to stop when the job is completed! How we fulfill this command during COVID-10 may be different, but the task has not changed. Loren Cunningham (founder of Youth With a Mission) in a recent message stated "There will be a time of great openness to the gospel. When all else in our lives is stripped away, when life feels uncertain, we are open to considering new things. We are ready to hear the message of

those with hope to spare. Spiritual conversations flow naturally as we look for gospel bridges in this crisis. Let us rise and go in. We will reap the great harvest of souls God has prepared for us through this pandemic.

#### Social distancing creates an increased longing for community

People are starving for social interaction and community. As we offer genuine, authentic community, be it virtually or in person, the unreached will be drawn to it. There has never been such a great opportunity as this to invite people into community and fellowship. There are wonderful opportunities to use online media for training disciple-makers. The same is true for the course Perspectives on the World Christian Movement. God is not surprised by this crisis. But we may be surprised by how He will use it.

#### Stronger prayer

Around the world we are seeing God draw many individuals and groups into deeper and stronger times of listening, confession and intercession. A recent Esther Fast involved tens of thousands of churches in many languages and countries. What a way to come together!

#### Relying on God to work

As our human efforts are blocked or ineffective, we may well cooperate more with God as He works. As Hudson Taylor stated,

***"When we work,  
man works, when  
we pray God  
works."***

### Increased faith

In times of crisis we realize we are not in control, and that draws us back to God. We are pulled back to living by faith (Galatians 2:20) and walking by faith.

I am excited about the start of the Perspectives classes that are just now beginning for the Fall 2020. Some of the classes are in person, but most are done via Zoom. God continues to work through the Perspectives course, mobilizing thousands every year to His purposes in reaching the remaining unreached people groups. May God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven.



For further information check out the July/August Mission Frontiers Magazine at [missionfrontiers.org](http://missionfrontiers.org)



### A Family who grows up together...

...launches one by one!

Our oldest, Abigail, is moving to Dallas over Labor Day weekend. It has been a dream of hers for some time now, and she is joining a growing church called "Upper Room" whose mission statement is "We are a community committed to ministering to the heart of God through prayer and worship because we believe that the Presence of God transforms lives. We gather together Morning, Noon, and Night to give God our thanksgiving and praise, to worship Him by agreeing with who He is and intercede by agreeing with what He desires to do in our lives, city, and the earth."

Thank you!

Till all nations hear

*Jim, Sonya, Abigail, Henry and Jenna*