



March 20, 2020

Subject: Our Response to the Rampant Spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Dear fellow leaders and members of Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship in Canada:

Indeed, we are living in unprecedented times. At no other time can I remember having so often heard and been constantly reminded of the safety we have of **abiding in the presence of God**. I'm referring of course, to the wonderful assurances recorded in Psalm 91. At the very outset of the chapter, we read: "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High SHALL [uppercase my emphasis] abide under the shadow of the **Almighty**. I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him will I trust'." **Amen**, thousands of times over! And may we never forget it.

In terms of current headlines painting a picture of a world where uncertainty and fear are the dominant themes, and where daily activities and recommended precautions are rapidly modified - all as a result of COVID-19, it is vital that we do not ignore any of it. As we consider everything that is happening, my prayer is that all of this will bring God's people together in His Spirit as we pray for one another and also for the salvation of those who are living in fear and lack hope in Him. May multitudes turn to Christ, our One and only Eternal Salvation.

There is no shortage of questions surrounding the current rampant COVID-19 virus and how it has the potential of touching so many aspects of our lives. The questions understandably also encompass our activities within and through FGBMF in Canada. Respectfully, we must of course exercise caution and due diligence during this difficult period.

Just last week, I, together with my fellow Ontario National Director Dan Coldwell, in concert with our Men's Advance Registrar and Treasurer, came to a difficult conclusion. After much prayer, we decided with wisdom and prudence to engage a suspension, a "pause" we called it, on our Ontario Men's Advance for 2020. Similarly, in the Region of Saskatchewan, both their annual Regional Rally and their MLA banquet have been suspended for this year. We then learned from our governments and our health authorities that such suspension is now mandatory. Thank you, Lord, for Your forewarning!

In like manner and for the same reasons, it was decided that we must suspend our chapter outreach meetings in Niagara. Your National Board of Directors would ask that you, too, wherever you are, exercise due caution and respect to the members and adherents of your meetings, by following suit as necessary. Your health, together with their health and wellbeing, must be top priority in our decisions. God our Creator and of course those in authority over us, will show us when to move forward again.

Continued on Page 2

God is definitely calling each of us to lean upon Him and to seek His Face through all that is now going on. He is drawing us to His Word, His promises, His comfort and the assurances of His protection as we *'dwell in the secret place of the Most High'*. If for no other reason, may each of us declare within our own hearts to spend much more time with Him in prayer and in His Word. I truly believe that this is what He longs for us to do RIGHT NOW.

God will show us ways to come together in the Spirit. Just today, a devoted member of the Toronto Multicultural Chapter called to see how I was doing and to pray with me. It was the sixth such call this week, all but two came from other parts of Canada and abroad. What a wonderful example such calls are to all of us. Be innovative too, as God leads you to call one another, to pray, to study His Word together, or whatever else it might be that He is leading you to do. Yes, God is SO GOOD!

Lastly, and also closely related to the current COVID-19 pandemic, is the concern about meeting our financial obligations. This afternoon, Yvette, our faithful office manager, in a gentle way, conveyed her heart to me about our lack in the vital area of revenues. We ask, in response, that you please continue to support your local FGBMF chapter and our National Office faithfully in prayer, attendance (if and when appropriate), and finances.

Thank you everyone. May He continue to bless you mightily; all for His glory!

Blake Morris, on behalf of your National Board of Directors

One last time, *"I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him will I trust'."*