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From Pastor Jim's Desk

June 2020

Dear Freedom House Friends,

Spring is giving way to Summer shortly as we find ourselves still in the “limited to campus” mode. I hope all of you are adjusting to this new normal and both home and family are healthy and safe. All of the students here have been active in campus projects such as the prep and painting of our Ministry Center (MC) building. We found an amazing sale on dozens of flowers for all of the planters around campus and the place is looking fantastic. PTL!



Our sincere thanks to all of you who so faithfully support the efforts here as you continue to sponsor these young men growing in their faith walk and spiritual character development. I do pray that the Lord honors each and every one, as you have stood alongside especially through this season. In just a few weeks we will be celebrating Chris's completion. With our campus here in the Vancouver area, we are waiting for the guidelines in Washington to loosen up to know the capacity of how many can attend his ceremony.

Let me share a bit more about my health challenges since our last newsletter. A recent PET scan revealed some cancer in my prostate region along with some lesions in rib and spinal bones. This appears to be the source of the tumor behind my right eye as I still am struggling with double vision. As I share this, do know that I am not in great pain. I am trusting His promises and confident in His power and presence as this journey unfolds. **He will be glorified in all of this!** In the last several weeks as the process continues I have received some of the most encouraging notes, cards, calls and prayers from so many who have taken Geri and I upon their hearts before the Lord and His throne of Grace. Healing and victory over this bout with cancer is foremost in our combined intercession and I so thank all of you for adding your faith to ours. We have actually heard of church families and prayer groups from across the PNW, as well as other regions in the US, Europe and our dear friends in Uganda who are praying for His will and way to ultimate victory in this battle. Praise His Holy Name!!! I am humbled by such love and care from so many... ***Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!!*** We will continue to keep you posted.



With time at home due to the Covid issues plus the health issues, it has been necessary to find another way to speak to our students during the daily chapel times. So I converted a bedroom wall into a simple backdrop and have been utilizing “Zoom”, which has been a very helpful tool as we are currently wrapping up the Gospel of Matthew. It is the next best thing to actually being there. As we read Matthew 24 yesterday, the emphasis was focused on the prophetic insights with regard to Israel and the final signs of His return. It stirred our hearts to realize how much is coming to pass and already in place as we read. Friends, I truly look for His appearing as the “birth pangs” are evident and Israel is now reaching 72 years since being restored. (cf Ps. 90:10) & (Matt. 24:34). I encourage us all to be *awake, watching and ready*... **He is coming soon.** The Lord bless you and yours!!

Looking up,

Pastor Jim

Pastor Jim and Geri Cottrell

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