Emergency Chaplains



March 17, 2020

Dear Friends.

We live in uncertain times. That's probably the understatement of the century given the current state of things.

It's going to calm down at some point, but even when the virus has passed, we will still be living in uncertain times. We never know what lies just over the horizon for us.

All around the globe, folks are worried. Sickness and death are on their minds. Daily provisions are in question. Most haven't even begun to consider the long-term impact.

And, in the midst of this pandemic, our First Responders are working longer hours and further exposed to everything that's out there. They are under tremendous stress. Pray for them.

In Matthew 6, Jesus told us not to worry about our life. He said that He would take care of us and that nothing could be gained by worrying. I love this scripture because <u>Jesus gives us clear instruction on what to do instead of worrying.</u> It's in verse 33 "...seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness."

Living out the Great Commission, both personally and through the work of Emergency Chaplains, has never been more important than it is right now. So many people are in crisis, searching for hope. It is crucial that we reach out to those in crisis with the comfort of Christ, seeking permission to share the life changing Good News.

Last year, my dream goal was to enroll 1,000 students into our newly developed training and certification program by the end of 2020. I can see why now.

I'm sure that you can see the need as well. Now, more than ever, we need qualified and trained Chaplains who will intentionally go to where hurting people are.

We need your help to make this happen. Would you be willing to partner with us financially in this effort? You can find more information about donating to Emergency Chaplains on our website (EChap.org/donate) but please call me if I can answer any questions.

If you are interested in our training, or know someone who is, please give me a call. We would love to talk with you.

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Our annual banquet is still on for Sunday, April 26. (see enclosed card)

This is our largest fundraising event for the year. Please consider becoming one of our sponsors. Tickets are still available.

We are praying that this virus will pass soon and that we will be able to host the banquet as planned. There are current restrictions on attendance at events like this and we may be forced to postpone. If we do, a makeup date will be planned as soon as possible. I will keep you posted.

Serving Jesus Together,

Ralph Thompson Executive Director

Do Not Worry

²⁵ "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷ Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

²⁸ "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. ²⁹ Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ³⁰ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

(Matthew 6:25-34 NIV)