

Joyful in Hope – 29 – April 20, 2020
(thoughts and ideas to encourage and challenge)

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”
Romans 12:9

Just over a month ago, the Governor of Michigan issued the first ‘Stay at Home’ order, and we went into lockdown. It’s safe to say that our whole world changed that day, and now, everything is different. In fact, it’s becoming more and more difficult to remember what ‘normal life’ looks like. Oh, I know that this will all come to an end, sooner than later, we pray. But, I’m not sure we will ever return to ‘normal’.

I’ve decided that’s OK. I feel like I’m learning to be more intentional. To not take things and people for granted. To count my blessings.

I’ve also decided that the best thing I can do is to listen to the CDC and the scientists and doctors, and do what I can to slow this thing down, recognizing that there are some things over which I have no control. I think that’s what James meant when he said, (James 4:13-15)

¹³ Now listen, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.” ¹⁴ Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. ¹⁵ Instead, you ought to say, “If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.”

Let’s make sure that we are living within the Lord’s will and not deciding for ourselves how this whole thing ought to be going. Let’s trust the Lord to get us through this.

Blessings to all on this Monday.

Pete