

Joyful in Hope – 36 – April 28, 2020
(thoughts and ideas to encourage and challenge)

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

Wow! We could get really spoiled with these beautiful days, right? I hope you are able to enjoy them to the fullest, under the present guidelines and restrictions. I know, it is a little frustrating, not being able to do everything you would like to do – get together with friends and family, run down to the Dairy O and sit around eating ice cream with the gang, fire up the grill and have folks over, take a nice long drive and stop by your favorite tavern or café, go antiquing. We’re starting to get a taste of what it will be like when all this coronavirus stuff is a distant memory, but for now, we just have to settle for some teasers, some previews.

It’s been 45 days or so since we were first told to stay home. It wasn’t so bad at first, but now we long for something different, something better. We’ve begun to understand that we were not made for isolation, for quarantine. We were made for interaction, for fellowship. Even us introverts know that’s true, and we’re starting to feel claustrophobic. As Mel reminded us on Sunday, we were meant to be in community.

As Christians, we look forward to, and anticipate something so much better than what we are experiencing here, even in the best of times. What God has promised us, and what Jesus is preparing for us, will be beyond anything we can ask or even imagine. Can’t wait!

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

¹⁶ Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸ So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Prayers for Kolby Heimbecher. She is at Troy Beaumont right now being tested for Covid19. She went into the ER with chest pain.

I NEED YOUR HELP. What is something that you miss the most right now, that, due to the current restrictions, you have not had access to? Please, make a video on your phone (15 seconds or less. Begin with, "**I MISS . . .**"), and send it to me, text or email. ASAP. Thanks!