## BEREAN BIBLE SOCIETY

An Organization for the Promotion of Bible Study

## OUR RESPONSE TO THE CURRENT PANDEMIC

Dear Friends in Christ,

"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind" (2 Tim. 1:7).

We have been sharing 2 Timothy 1:7 with those who contact *Berean Bible Society* during this troubling time. Understandably so, many are fearful right now because of the current pandemic. The spirit of fear comes from the believer's three enemies: the world, the flesh, and the devil. It occurs when we put our focus on our circumstances. When we look to the Lord, however, He gives us the spirit "of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

Our response to the pandemic should be, first and foremost, to pray. We pray for comfort and healing of those affected by the virus—those who have contracted it and those who have lost loved ones as a result of it. We pray for the strength and safety of the doctors, nurses, and first responders who are treating those with the virus. But most of all, we pray for the salvation of souls.

It is an important time for us, the Church, to have an eternal perspective. We have an opportunity to show Christ in us. We can show, not weakness, but "power" and strength by looking to Him, knowing our hope is sure. We can infuse that strength in others as we remain "strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might" (Eph. 6:10). We can show, not selfishness, but "love," Christ's selfless love, and we can look for ways to help others. The greatest way we can show the love of Christ is by sharing the gospel of grace. The world is thinking about life, death, and eternity, and the Body of Christ has an opportunity to tell others about the reason of the hope that is in us. And we can show, not panic or worry, but "a sound mind," a courageous calm, a proper thinking in light of our eternal hope and the truth of God's Word.

Often, we are hearing the phrase that "We're all in this together." That has reminded me about the deadly virus that has infected all of humanity: SIN. All of us, together, have this virus. We all have the same spiritual problem. But by trusting Christ as our Savior, that Christ died for our sins and rose again, this deadly virus of sin is taken away and we have life eternal. That is the good news people need to hear. At this time, may we "be strong and of a good courage" (Joshua 1:18), by being a bright light for Christ in this dark time and sharing the wonderful gospel of the grace of God.

Grace and peace,

2981

Pastor Kevin Sadler, President