

In Touch

LORD, I FEEL SO BAD....

Dear Friends:

I was hoping to hear good news yesterday from the Governor and Dr. Amy Acton, but I really wasn't expecting to. I (and all of you) got what we expected: the Stay At Home order is now in place until May 1. If you weren't feeling bad before the news conference you may be now! The longer the stay at home order is in place the harder it will be to stay positive-but it is possible to stay positive if our focus is on God and not on fear. Sometimes things just don't work-out the way you were planning and thus, you feel bad.

Moses could relate to our current situation – when things aren't going as planned. Exodus 5:15-23 and 6:1 & 9 tell us how to deal with bad news, unplanned situations, discouragement, and overcoming in the face of adversity! First, we need to understand the context. In Exodus 3 & 4 God tells Moses that he will give him and Aaron the power to lead the Israelites out of bondage. Moses and Aaron tell the Israelites the good news, they all rejoice. Bad news: Moses and Aaron tell Pharaoh the plan and Pharaoh says: "Oh yeah? I've got a new rule – make bricks out of straw yet keep-up the same production level". The people become angry at Moses and Aaron, Moses and Aaron become confused about why God would allow this. One of the root causes of discouragement is confusion over circumstances. Many of us have asked: "Why God do we have COVID19?". Second, What causes discouragement? Criticism. It's typical that when things "go sideways" or get worse the leaders are always criticized. Those close to you now may be a little more critical towards you than normal, don't feel bad – reach out to God. In Exodus 5:22-23 we find Moses having a "Why me" moment with God. Moses says: "Why me, this isn't what I was expecting". We're having "Why me" moments now.

How do we overcome feeling bad and feeling discouraged? The answer is discovered in Exodus 6: 1 & 9...remember: God is in control (v.1). He told Moses His mighty hand would change the circumstances, God would deliver the people. Can I remind you of something? God is STILL in control. He WILL change and improve the circumstances for the good. Finally, v. 9 reminds us not to feel bad. Even when you tell other people God is in control, they may not listen. They didn't listen to Moses but Moses didn't stop believing. May Moses' response be your response. Even when you present facts others don't want to hear, even when you remind them God sustains control they may not listen but you keep listening to God, don't feel bad!

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Mike

Reminder: Prayer Gathering this Sunday, TIME CHANGE TO 9:00 a.m. to try and get better phone reception. Call 605-313-5846 when prompted Enter 881885. Keep trying and I would start at 8:55 a.m. seeking the contact.

Got cabin fever yet? We have emailed all people on our In Touch list an invite to Right Now media (Some of you may have got multiple mails, sorry). It is absolutely free to you, the church pays a very minimal monthly fee to access this. ALL our attenders and shut-ins can make their own personal account. If you have not received an email that allows you to sign-up for Right Now please email me at Mike@franklinub.org You have to establish a personal account with personal password. Right now has thousands of Christian videos, seminars, bible studies and kids videos, no exaggeration. They are the Netflix of Christian videos.