

Friday, March 27

2 Timothy 1:7 *For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.*

“Faith is a living, daring confidence in God’s grace, so sure and certain that the believer would stake his life on it a thousand times.” Martin Luther

“The circumstances we ask God to CHANGE are often the circumstances God is using to CHANGE US.” Mark Batterson

I spoke with someone this week who is very fearful of contracting COVID-19. This fear was “infecting” her soul, distracting her thinking, and consuming her emotions. As I read social media sources and as I watch tv, it’s apparent that her emotion and attitude are shared by millions of people throughout the world.

Peter Diamandis in a recent blog wrote:

On one of the worst days for Coronavirus in China (February 10, 2020), 108 people died. But on a given day, globally:

26,283 people die of cancer;

49,041 people die of cardiovascular diseases;

4,383 people die of diabetes.

Meanwhile, suicide takes on average 2,191 lives....

Mosquitoes take the lives of over 2,740 people, and....

HUMANS kill an average of 1,287 fellow people, every single day.

Context always provides perspective. So, as Christians, what is our context? It’s recognizing, acknowledging, and then submitting to the sovereignty of God. Context means we make wise decisions based on the best information available – biblically and practically – and it means that we respond rather than react.

In Psalm 31:15 David wrote, *My times are in your hands*. His intention wasn’t to foster an attitude of “que sera, sera”, whatever will be, will be. We are to apply the right actions as directed by medical experts and government leaders.

His intention was to affirm that we can rest in God’s grace and protection knowing He has secured His people into eternity. *Do not let your hearts be troubled* (John 14:1).

Questions to ponder:

- What is the basis for any fear having more say than my faith in God?
- What truths do I need to remind myself of to push back against any fear?
- Who can I encourage during this time of threat to the peace of our souls?