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Fellowship International

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It was only a couple of months ago that we were watching news from China and praying for those affected there. Today the world is so different. How has your life changed since the coronavirus situation began? A lot of my work was done at home on the computer, so in some ways I am doing what I did before. Visiting pastors and churches has stopped, and my trips to Indonesia, BC and the States have all been canceled. Planned trips later in the year are still under consideration and, like everyone, we're waiting to see how things develop.

Thank you for praying for us. Donna is home from work in the schools and will find out on Monday what her organization wants her to do during this time. We are grateful that she has a salary at least till the end of June. I am continuing to work on our LeadersFormation curriculum as one of the editors, and I have time now to get back to some Media projects that have been on the shelf for a long time. This week I was able to get four of our titles converted to e-books and up on the web for Sindhis in Pakistan to download on their phones.

## We are praying for:

- Friends here in Canada who are now laid off and uncertain of wages.
- Health care and front line workers.
- Friends in Pakistan who are under curfew. Because they are daily wage workers, they now have no money to buy groceries or pay rent or utilities.
  - (For a good analysis of their situation see: <a href="https://pak7.org/blog/theres-a-storm-coming/?fbclid=IwAR10xQ8bzJolmOjB6xVXaHV4uSPW7M-">https://pak7.org/blog/theres-a-storm-coming/?fbclid=IwAR10xQ8bzJolmOjB6xVXaHV4uSPW7M-</a>

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- Friends in Pakistan who were planning on flying back to Canada but the airports closed to all flights for two weeks.
- Institutions in Pakistan who were already struggling to conform to new government regulations to re-register as societies and until they were newly registered funding from outside of the country was blocked. This has affected the Shikarpur Christian Hospital and the Pakistan Bible Correspondence School (PBCS) among so many others.
- PBCS staff who are continuing to do video-call Bible studies with individuals scattered across the province by means of phone apps.
- Pastors in Indonesia who are trying to figure out how to shepherd a flock they can't visit in person. Not everyone has internet at home or on their phones and so recording worship services is not possible for many.

A friend pointed out that countless pastors and churches are now putting sermons and worship services up on YouTube and other platforms. It's nice to know that the internet is being flooded with messages of hope and truth at a time like this!

Our small group here in Edmonton met by video call to continue studying the Minor Prophets, and how very applicable they are to today! God is still in control in the midst of disasters, God is still using disasters to call people back to himself, and God will knock down everything we consider to be our worldly supports till we recognize that he alone is our rock. What a joy to find such modern applications in books 2800 years old!

And remember Wuhan, where the virus originated? Here's some good news from there in addition to other news we have heard:

 $\frac{https://www.chinasource.org/resource-library/chinasource-blog-posts/books-for-wuhan?}{fbclid=IwARoryKtP-vfyv6jw\_lPVFu9tQvvrhYG4HQBF1jpngQmODbQX2iAAaEtZjNc}$ 

God bless and we would love to hear how you are doing. Rod and Donna Black

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