Corona Virus Social Distancing Daily Devotion #6

Waiting on the Lord

Matthew 28:7 (NASB) *7 "Go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going ahead of you into Galilee, there you will see Him; behold, I have told you*."

This morning I read a very sad article from Chesdin Harrington a former baseball player for the University of Virginia. Chesdin was in his senior year as a pitcher when his season and career came to an abrupt halt due to the invasion of the Corona Virus. Chesdin grew up in Charlottesville, had family who taught at UVA, and had a life long dream of being a Wahoo and playing baseball for Head Coach Brian O’Connor. All that came became reality in 2015-16. But when the NCAA cancelled all sports activities nationwide, his lifelong ambition to finish his career as a baseball player came to a crashing halt. (Here is the link to that article, [https://virginiasports.com/…/baseball-uvas-harrington-refle…](https://virginiasports.com/news/2020/3/29/baseball-uvas-harrington-reflects-on-a-season-cut-short.aspx?fbclid=IwAR2fYocXClKqw_wW01cywlttn3CD6jYeBkK8J4iWyyJhXxNV_gp1xumv9ow)).

As I read Chesdin’s article, I was very much aware of the emotion that this young man was experiencing, as well as the many thousands of other young athletes who had their senior year cut short due to the virus. For Chesdin and the many other people involved, he must learn how to keep going in the face of great disappointment and wait for an opportunity to use a skill that he has been developing for years. Perhaps, and I hope so for his sake, he will be picked up by a major league team when all this is over. But the waiting is always the hard part. All of us, who have experienced some years in life, understand the emotion that comes with great disappointment and being forced into a holding pattern. It is a terribly challenging time for anyone who experiences that waiting.

And right now, many people are having to wait for some answers. For example, some are having to wait for answers as to why their loved ones died from this virus. Some are having to wait for answers as to why they had to close their businesses and lay off their employees. Many are having to wait and see what happen with work or for an opportunity to have work again. Some are not going back to the school they love and were hoping to graduate from in May.
The disciples of Jesus also had to learn what waiting was all about. On several occasions the Lord had told them to meet him in Galilee after his resurrection. But what you may not realize is there was a significant amount of time between the Lord’s resurrection and His great commission for the disciples. In fact, it was eight days after the resurrection before Thomas saw the Lord for the first time. Then the journey to Galilee from Jerusalem would have taken about a week. Then when the Lord did appear to them again, it was about fifteen days later or maybe closer to twenty days. After that the disciples went back to Jerusalem which would have been another week. Which takes them to about twenty to thirty-five days after His resurrection to give them the Great Commission.
The point is beloved, waiting on the Lord to see Him working in our lives is not new. Right now, we are all anxious for this to be over, and we all were frustrated, irritated, exhausted, etc. over the social distancing and the President’s continuance of the social distancing until the end of the month. But we need to remember that God is not bound to man’s time. He works perfectly in all He does. There is not one minute going by that is out of the control of God.
Our role is to be patient and wait on the Lord. He is working His plan perfectly and is using the evil intentions of Satan to accomplish His purposes in each of our lives. We are to obey Him, now and every moment of every day while we wait for this to be over and for Him to return.
Chesdin ended his article with a very familiar statement that many have had to learn the hard way, “life is in the journey”. Life is not about what we accomplish as some point. Life in Christ is about living for Him today and letting Him take care of tomorrow.
So, as you wait, make the most of every moment. Make the most of every relationship, albeit they may be closer than you like right now. Make the most of all God has blessed you with. Make the most of all the “things” you have accumulated over the years. Make the most of what you often take for granted. Jesus said tomorrow will have enough trouble of its own. (Matt 6:34) Make the most of right now.