



Northeast Fellowship
A Network of Independent Baptist Churches

Rx FOR THE CORONAVIRUS

This winter 2020 season, the Coronavirus is dominating the headlines.

Scripture prescribes key principles in handling this situation. Here is your Rx for the Coronavirus:

CONFIDENCE

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”

II Timothy 1:7

Begin with confidence in God, and beware of letting others set the agenda.

Fear can lead us to regrettable action and/or inaction. But power from God, love for others, and sound thinking in ourselves can turn this crisis into **an opportunity**.

TRUST in God’s ability. SEEK opportunity to serve others. And run your thoughts through the 8 FILTERS in Philippians 4:8.

*“Finally, brethren, whatever things are **true**, whatever things are **noble**, whatever things are **just**, whatever things are **pure**, whatever things are **lovely**, whatever things are **of good report**, if there is **any virtue** and if there is anything **praiseworthy**--meditate on these things”.*

CAUTION

“Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding.”

Proverbs 4:7

Our confidence in God should be accompanied by wise caution in all circumstances.

In our fallen world, we constantly face large and significant dangers and difficulties.

Always beware of danger, and take appropriate precautions.

To do this, we need to **be armed with facts**, which often requires looking beyond simply the loudest and most popular news. Next, we need to **reach wise conclusions**. Finally, we need to **act on them**.

The Old Testament Law gave principles about dealing with disease. These included isolating illness and concentrating on cleanliness. This kind of caution serves us well today also.

“See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise.”

Ephesians 5:15

“A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself, but the simple pass on and are punished.”

Proverbs 22:3 and 27:12

COMPASSION

“Love your neighbor as yourself.”

Leviticus 19:18 & 34

We’re continually surrounded by needy and even dying people. Situations like this bring it more into focus. We can show the ways of Christ and share the words of Christ. Our old nature runs toward panic in crises. But our new nature shows a better way.

Trust in Christ and compassion toward others are always a good testimony, and they’re noticed even more in times of trouble. Perhaps you can shovel snow or get groceries for someone with a compromised immune system or other health challenges.

As one SARS survivor commented about the Coronavirus, “Even if we have to stand a little farther apart from one another, the best way to get through this is with a bit of extra compassion to bridge the gap.”

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