

From The Pastors Study

Trust?

Okay, are you going crazy yet, are the walls closing in, do you constantly look for reasons to get out of the house? I read where a man told his wife he had to run to Walmart to pick up a couple of movies. He finally returned home four and a half hours later, "Where have you been?" The husband explained that he had to go to Williamsburg, sixty miles away, to find a movie he hadn't seen. Actually it was at least half true, Williamsburg was where he went and he did find a movie.

But honestly, for a lot of people having their freedom limited is almost like being in jail and for some it is worse. Imagine someone with three or four kids filled with energy and no place to burn it off, they are driving parents crazy. How about if we pile on a bit more, mom and dad can't go to work because companies have laid off workers because of a decrease in business or a complete company shut down. It is a bad time for everyone and no cure in sight; people are scared, and for good reason.

For some it was novel to work from home at first. People didn't even have to get dressed, saved on gas, got to spend some time with the kids. Then the other shoe dropped, yes, you get to spend time with the family but you have the honor of being teacher for your children and that might be interesting. First week passes and it's a little rough trying to spend time helping you children with their school work and getting your own work done. Week two is over and you are a little edgy, you are behind on your work and plan to work the weekend, what the heck, can't do much else.

Now it is week four, you haven't seen friends and family, the kids are going nuts, even the cat is starting to disappear into some hideout in the house. You take walks just to move around and explore the world outside; you wash the car, mow the grass for the third time this week, that office at work where you felt trapped now looks like an escape and you look in the mirror and discover that is the person you have been talking to for the last three weeks. They say talking to yourself isn't that unusual, but now you are answering you own questions.

This isn't what we would consider the American way of life, it isn't how we have lived our lives all these years. God recognized that his creation needed to have someone to keep Adam company, not to cook his meals, wash his clothes,,oh wait, they had no clothes, but you get my meaning. Eve was to be Adams partner, someone to talk to, someone to confide in, someone who would be there when he got home from a hard days work naming animals. We are created as social beings; we live in communities, we gather for parties, worship, celebrations, family reunions. We weren't created to be hermits. People who are living in assisted living and retirement communities are also restricted. They were used to daily activities but some are very restricted.

If you have been watching any of the news you have probably seen all the protests. One side says that freedoms are being taken by the government in that we are being commanded to stay at home. And I can understand that, can we depend on the government to keep us safe? People who are running small businesses are losing their income as well as those who work for them, Restaurants are scrambling to survive by having curbside deliveries but somehow calling to pick up a steak dinner doesn't seem right. Coffee shops are drying up, farmers crops are rotting in the fields, milk farmers are wasting their produce, cattlemen are delaying their product preparation as well. All of these are connected and many more. They need to feed their families, pay mortgages, car payments, electricity...and on it goes. They are willing to risk their lives rather than losing all they have.

The other side says we need to remain locked in until it is safe. That we need to abide by the requirements set down by the government. They want to wait until the virus has run it's course and it is safe to go out. I can't blame them either, it could mean risking ones life if they came in contact with an infected person.

So, who do we depend on to get us through this mess, the CDC, the government, WHO? How do we handle this? Who do we believe. How do we take in all this information and make sense of it. How are we going to decide when to open our sanctuary. Do we depend on the government to get us out of this mess.

I know who I will depend on, I will depend on Jesus Christ to get us out of this mess, in the first place He already knows the outcome. But the one who will decide for GPC, of course, the session will decide and they will do so without my vote.

We have all struggled through this mess, some of us have managed to get through it with fair ease, for others the stress has been hard to take. I have left my trust in Jesus, that doesn't mean I have been completely without stress but I have done pretty well. And I certainly trust Him more than the government.