

**SERMON
STUDY
NOTES**

**Prepared by
Pastor David Bellows**

Living Confidently with Facts and Faith

John 8:32 NLT

“And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

Juneteenth

June 19, 1865

Emancipation Proclamation

January 1, 1863

New Words:

Corona Virus

Social Distancing

COVID 19

Flattening the Curve

Self-Sequester

Trust God to Take Care of YOU!

Psalms 23:1,4 NLT

The LORD is my shepherd; **I have all that I need.**

Verse 4

“Even when I walk through the darkest valley, **I will not be afraid**, for you are close beside me.”

“ANXIOUS for NOTHING” *Finding Calm in a Chaotic World*

by Max Lucado

Celebrate God’s Goodness.

Ask God for Help.

LIST things you’re thankful for.

Meditate on things that are true.

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What we know gives us hope and gets us through.

2 Corinthians 1:7 NIV

And **our hope** for you **is firm**, because **we know** that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.

Living Confidently with Facts and Faith

Not everything you hear is true.

Proverbs 14:15 NLT

Only simpletons believe everything they're told!
The prudent carefully consider their steps.

Proverbs 13:16 NLT

Wise people **think before** they act;
fools don't—and even brag about their foolishness.

Proverbs 18:13 NLT

Spouting off before listening to the **facts**
is both shameful and foolish.

Proverbs 18:2 NLT

Fools have no interest in **understanding**;
they only want to air **their own opinions**.

Proverbs 14:8 TLB

The **wise** man **looks** ahead. The **fool** attempts to fool himself and **won't face facts**.

Proverbs 23:23 TLB

Get **the facts** at any price, and hold on tightly to all the **good sense** you can get.

Not everyone is at equal risk.

Over 60, Cancer, Liver damage, lung damage, respiratory problems

This is not the flu!

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COVID 19 is a novel virus, a virus not seen before. Therefore, there is **no prior immunity** to it and **no vaccine** for it.

We are going to get through this!

1 Peter 4:12 MSG

Friends, when life gets really difficult, don't jump to the conclusion that God isn't on the job. Instead, be glad that you are in the very thick of what Christ experienced. This is a spiritual refining process, with glory just around the corner.

Isaiah 24:5,19 NLT

The earth suffers for the sins of its people, for they have twisted God's instructions, violated his laws, and broken his everlasting covenant..... The earth has broken up. It has utterly collapsed; it is violently shaken.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 NLT

For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

Meditate on what is unchanging.

Hebrews 13:8 NLT

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Romans 8:35,37 NLT

Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death?..... No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.

Unchangeable Truths

God loves you.

God sees everything you are going through.

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God cares for you!!

God has the power to change what you are going through.

God always acts out of his goodness (extends grace) to you.

God's plans for you are always, always, always better than your plan for you.

No matter what you are going through, God is going through it with you.

Hebrews 13:5b NLT

For God has said, "I will never fail you. I will never abandon you."

Isaiah 43:2 NLT

When you go through deep waters,

I will be with you.

When you go through rivers of difficulty,

you will not drown.

When you walk through the fire of oppression,

you will not be burned up;

the flames will not consume you.

Deuteronomy 31:8 NLT

Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the LORD will personally go ahead of you. He will be with you; he will neither fail you nor abandon you."

At the end of the story: WE WIN!!!!

2 Corinthians 4:8-9,14 NLT

We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair. We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not destroyed. We know that God, who raised the Lord Jesus, will also raise us with Jesus and present us to himself together with you.

Revelation 21:4 NLT

"GOD will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever."

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HOME STUDY NOTES

Prepared by
**Small Groups Pastor
Ray Westman**

Small Group Study

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“Living Confidently with Facts and Faith”

David started his sermon with:

John 8:32 “And you will know the truth and the truth will set you free.”

Then he asked us to look at the sequence in this sentence because the truth doesn't necessarily set us free, it's knowing the truth that sets us free, and he gave us an example of Juneteenth and the Emancipation Proclamation.

Question: Can you think of another example of this principle?

Discussion: Perhaps the truth of Jesus is a good example? Many people today say they believe that Jesus lived but they don't know the truth. They don't have a relationship with Him. Simply knowing of Him and knowing Him are two different things.

The first truth is: Trust god to take care of you. Psalm 23: (1) (4) says; The Lord is my shepherd; I have all I need. Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me.”

Discussion: What do these verses mean to you? Do you believe they are they the truth and will they set you free?

Reading your bibles is a good way to learn the truth that will set you free and a good way to put your faith in God. David also mentioned Max Lucado's book; "Anxious for Nothing" that too teaches us the truth that will set us free. Another suggestion would be to go back through the five sermons on anxiety to discover truths you may have missed the first time around and then pray, pray, pray.

Question: What does prayer do? What does it help increase?

Discussion: Faith. Prayer increases faith. Talk about how faith has helped you get through times of trouble or hardship.

Another suggestion David gave was to go back over "CALM". When you pray remember to **C**elebrate God's goodness, **A**sk God for help, be specific in your needs, **L**ist the things you are thankful for and **M**editate on the things that are true.

Read: 2 Corinthians 1:7 And **our hope** for you **is firm**, because **we know** that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.

Discussion: Not everyone is telling you the truth, news people lie, make up stories to fit their agenda. Not everything you hear is true.

Question: What do you believe is the truth about this virus?

Discussion: Go over the following verses and discuss.

Proverbs 14:15 Only simpletons believe everything they're told! The prudent carefully consider their steps.

Proverbs 13:16 Wise people think before they act; fools don't—and even brag about their foolishness.

Proverbs 18:13 Spouting off before listening to the facts is both shameful and foolish.

Proverbs 18:2 Fools have no interest in understanding; they only want to air their own opinions.

Proverbs 14:8 The prudent understand where they are going, but fools deceive themselves.

Proverbs 23:23 Get the truth and never sell it; also get wisdom, discipline, and good judgment.

Discussion: These verses tell us many things and they all lead back to knowing the truth, the facts and disregarding opinions and agenda's and don't listen to everyone.

Question: When we do this what happens? Are we more informed, calmer, less anxious, better able to cope? **Discuss** this.

David said not everyone is at risk, if we trust in God, we are both people of faith and of facts! This is not the flu and we should be cautious but we will get through it.

At the end of his sermon David gave us some Bible verse to meditate on, please look them up, read them and meditate on what they say to you.

Hebrews 13:8

Romans 8: (35) (37)

Hebrews 13:5b

Isaiah 43:2

Deuteronomy 31:8

And then he said: “At the end of the story we win”.

Read:

2 Corinthians 4:8-9

Revelation 21:4

If this is your first time using the sermon notes I provide for small group studies they are the same notes you would receive as a Small Group teacher. As you can see, they are easy to read, self-explanatory and they will allow you to teach a small group anywhere at any time.

If you would like to know more about these notes, small groups and teaching opportunities just give me a call. Ray Westman 352-208-9023, or Email me at: ray@ccomc.org

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