

April 1, 2020

Good morning, Everybody.

Yesterday afternoon the staff pastors listened together to our governor's press conference. And by now you know that last night our President said that the next two weeks will be very difficult for our country. Such news dismays. But it ought not unhinge any of us who are truly God's children; His *little children* (nine times in I John).



It's strangely comforting to read that in the early evening of that fearful night before His crucifixion, the Lord addressed the hardy men who'd held fast to Him through thick and thin,

Little children, I am with you a little while longer. . . (John. 13:33; NASB).

Coming from anyone else, *little children*, would sound condescending; even insulting. But coming from our Lord, it's soooo soothing. Who'd have anticipated that when we come to a troubled hour, what would calm and comfort would be to hear that He sees even big, strong adults as small and vulnerable and helpless? Like little children.

The Psalm that we quote together every year the night before Thanksgiving assures us that, *He Himself knows our frame; He is mindful that we are but dust* (Psalm 103:14; NASB).

Aren't you glad that God says things like that? Don't they make you feel that you can open up to Him, not just about your future, but about your *fears* about your future? There's a difference (smile).

Big, tough people despise weakness. *Hey, be a man! Grow up!* But those who've known first-hand the gentleness of Jesus don't feel that way. They're unashamed of their eagerness to apply to themselves His warm, welcome words,

"Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 19:14 ESV).

Perhaps the Lord's gift to you today might be to find yourself strangely strengthened by the humility to glory in littleness; *O Lord, I am but a child.*

Tonight

Thankfully, we can livestream again tonight. We'll continue using Psalm 91 as our platform for taking refuge in the Lord. Afterwards, we'll have our normal prayer time. The only difference, of course, is that we'll do so from our homes rather than all together in our auditorium.

Some of you are living alone. Have you thought about the possibility of reaching out to someone else who's alone and arranging to pray together over the phone? Or by some other technology? With whom could you do that? How about calling somebody today and initiating an arrangement? You can pretty much count on it; whoever you call will be glad to hear from you (smile).

Praying for You Today,

Pastor Minnick