A Biblical Response to the Global Pandemic

Though this health crisis is very fluid and changing all the time, we serve a living, Sovereign God who is unchanging and firmly established on the throne of heaven. As Adrian Rogers once said, "There is never any panic in heaven, only plans."

With that in mind, what can we do as believers? 2 Timothy 1:7 says: *"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."* What does this mean for us as the Body of Christ?

• **Don't be afraid and fearful.** Remain Calm and Pray. Fear doesn't come from the Lord, but from our enemy. Philippians 4:6-7 says, "*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."*

2 Timothy also tells us what God gives: Power, Love, and a Sound Mind. What does that mean for the Christian?

- **Power** as Children of God, we have been provided God's power and grace that will sustain us in all of life. We live and function in His power and grace, not our own.
- Love -- As believers, we need to consistently love others and show compassion to one another. There are many who are going through these trials with us and this is an opportunity to express the love and compassion of Christ throughout the body. The Lord Jesus said in John 13:35, "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."
- **Sound Mind** This means we are to exercise wisdom, good judgment, and make sound decisions. Where does this "sound mind" come from? The Word of God gives us direction and hope.

We hope that you will join us in praying for our church, our community, our nation, our President and national leaders, and our world. Pray for wisdom and clarity in the midst of confusion. Remember that we serve a God who invites us to come "boldly into His throne of grace." He is faithful and trustworthy. Let's seek Him first above all things "that in all things He (Jesus) might have the preeminence."