

Dear Winfield Bible Chapel Family,

We have been advised to wash our hands frequently and use hand sanitizer. This advice needs to be taken seriously. Immediately after this announcement, hand sanitizer went off the shelves faster than stores can stock them across the globe.

According to Dr. Jurgen, (*Doctorate in Chemistry, he and his family live in Jerusalem and at present, President of International Christian Embassy Jerusalem*), hand washing is not as old a tradition as we might think but was only adopted some 150 years ago. It was Hungarian Doctor Ignaz Semmelweis (1818-1865) who discovered, while working in a maternity hospital in Budapest, that when doctors would wash their hands in a chlorine solution before treating women, the death rate among birthing mothers caused by infections was drastically reduced. He was called the savior of mothers.

Dr. Jurgen goes on to say, "but the nation with the oldest tradition of physical cleanliness is the Jewish people. Because the Jews in the middle ages were less impacted by global Bubonic plague that struck Europe and Asia in 1347, over the next 5 years killed more than 20 million people. This was known as the Black Plague. The reason why Jews were less impacted unlike the wider European culture was, they maintained a biblical practice of washing their hands before meals. Yet this tradition of purity goes back to the very beginning of the Jewish people when Israel received the law of Moses. God commanded the priests to immerse themselves in water when they were dedicated as priests (Exodus 29:4), and whenever they entered the Tabernacle to serve God they were commanded to wash their hands and their feet in the bronze laver before the tent of meeting" (Exodus 30:17-21)

Dr. Jurgen added, "The people of God understood that this was not just a ritual of physical purity, but it reflected a far deeper truth: the need for purity in our hearts." Psalm 24:3-4, King David asks: *"Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, nor sworn deceitfully..."*

*Announcements:*

1. Please tune in to church Facebook 10 AM Palm Sunday for the message from 1st Cor. 1:17-18 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory." (*JJ behind the camera*).
2. There will be no Sunrise, breakfast or Easter Service. Hopefully we can have the Itzel family for praise celebration concert the first Sunday we are allowed to hold church gathering.
3. My hope and prayer like churches across this nation is to have worship service by May 3rd (Hopefully optimistic).
4. Praise! Lillie is recovering well from her surgery and is home. Blake graduated from Navy basic training in Chicago, not sure when he will receive his next assignment.
5. If you know of someone in need of help for groceries, please contact the

the church office.

I miss all of you, this has been difficult for all of us, but it's also a time for us to search our hearts and renew our relationship with God. Psalm 103:19, *"The Lord has established His throne in heaven, and His Kingdom rules over all."* He is God Almighty, He is the sovereign Lord of all. David Egner, writer for Discovery series, "When we are absorbed with worry and fear due to wide spread Covid 19, we are actually acknowledging the truth that we are not adequate to meet the demands of life in our strength. This is our moment to remind ourselves of some important truths about God: 1st-God is everywhere Psalm 139:7-12. 2nd-God knows everything Job 7:20. 3rd-God is all powerful Matthew 19:26

Be safe and practice the advice of our health care officials.

Pastor Kim Gee