August 2020

UPDATES FROM THE Botchways!

Dear partners and friends,

We trust your faith is being strengthened in the midst of the Coronavirus pandemic. The restrictions have made us stay home most of the time, which somehow has been profitable to some and not so much with others. For us, it's given us the opportunity to use this time to study and strengthening our own prayer life. The reopening process has begun in Ghana and we are slowly getting into the rhythm of things. The restrictions on the number of worshippers to attend church services have also been lifted. That means churches can fill their sanctuaries as many as they can; however, certain protocols have to be in place; ie checking of people's temperature, writing down the names, addresses and phone numbers of worshippers, social distancing, washing of hands under running water, and wearing of masks.

Some of the pastors I talked to have started worship services but others are still waiting because of all the work involved. For the Megachurches, it involves a lot of work but some have started worshipping in their churches. For some smaller churches, the difficulty is financial constraints. It's also encouraging to know that in times of crisis people can be innovative and challenged to move from the norm to do extraordinary things. A pastor in one of the towns told me how his members took the initiative to organize prayer meetings very early in the morning each day before they go to work. Another pastor told me how he has used this opportunity to strengthen his small group meetings. **PRAISE BE TO GOD!**
The negative effect of the COVID 19 pandemic is that church attendance has gone down because fear has gripped the hearts of many. Scripture says "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind". (2 Timothy 1:6) Beloved, He will keep us in perfect peace if our mind stays on Him! Let’s trust Him for He will pull us through.

( Below is Pastor Albert Botchway preaching at Calvary Chapel, Dansoman, Accra, Ghana)
VIRTUAL SEMINAR:
On August 1, 2020, we organized a virtual trial meeting on Zoom to explore the possibility of using it to host our meetings. However, the trial didn't work out due to the difficulty of connecting to the internet.

UPCOMING SEMINARS:
I have been having conversations with our seminar coordinators as to when we could start our Leadership meeting. They sound positive so we are hoping to start very soon.

The bid on the 4X4
As reported previously, we lost the bid on the 4X4 vehicle. The next bid is uncertain. We are looking at other options which might cost more than the amount raised. Pray for God's provision in this regard.

Thanks again for your obedience in making our ministry thrive. For those who are not yet partners but give once a month to other organizations, next time keep us in mind. Together we are connecting, equipping, engaging leaders to become agents of change. Blessings.
Pastor Albert & Sandra Botchway
PRAYER POINTS:

- Pray for God’s wisdom as we discuss all the options we have to organize our seminars.
- Pray for the Pastors and leaders as they adjust to the new norm of dealing with Covid 19
- Pray for our next bid our the 4X4 vehicle we are trusting God for.
- Pray for our health
- Pray for more open doors with Pastors and Leaders.