

Monthly Focus Verse

1 Peter 1:3 (ESV)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

A seascape with waves, a rainbow, and a bird in flight. The sky is blue with scattered clouds, and a vibrant rainbow arches across the horizon. A single bird is captured in flight in the center of the frame. The ocean features white-capped waves in the foreground and middle ground.

HOPE

Set On

GRACE

1 Peter



HOPE *Set On* **GRACE**

Peter's Perspective: Zoom out, Zoom in

1 Peter 1:22 – 2:3

Lesson Five:

*Peter's
Perspective:
Zoom out,
Zoom in*

1 Peter 1:22 – 2:3

Is the Coronavirus Pandemic Bringing Your Extended Family Closer Together?

Are you FaceTiming with grandparents, Zooming with cousins or doing virtual family check-ins more often than usual?



1. When it comes to my family (either my immediate family or my extended family such as siblings or cousins) the current pandemic has, on the whole:

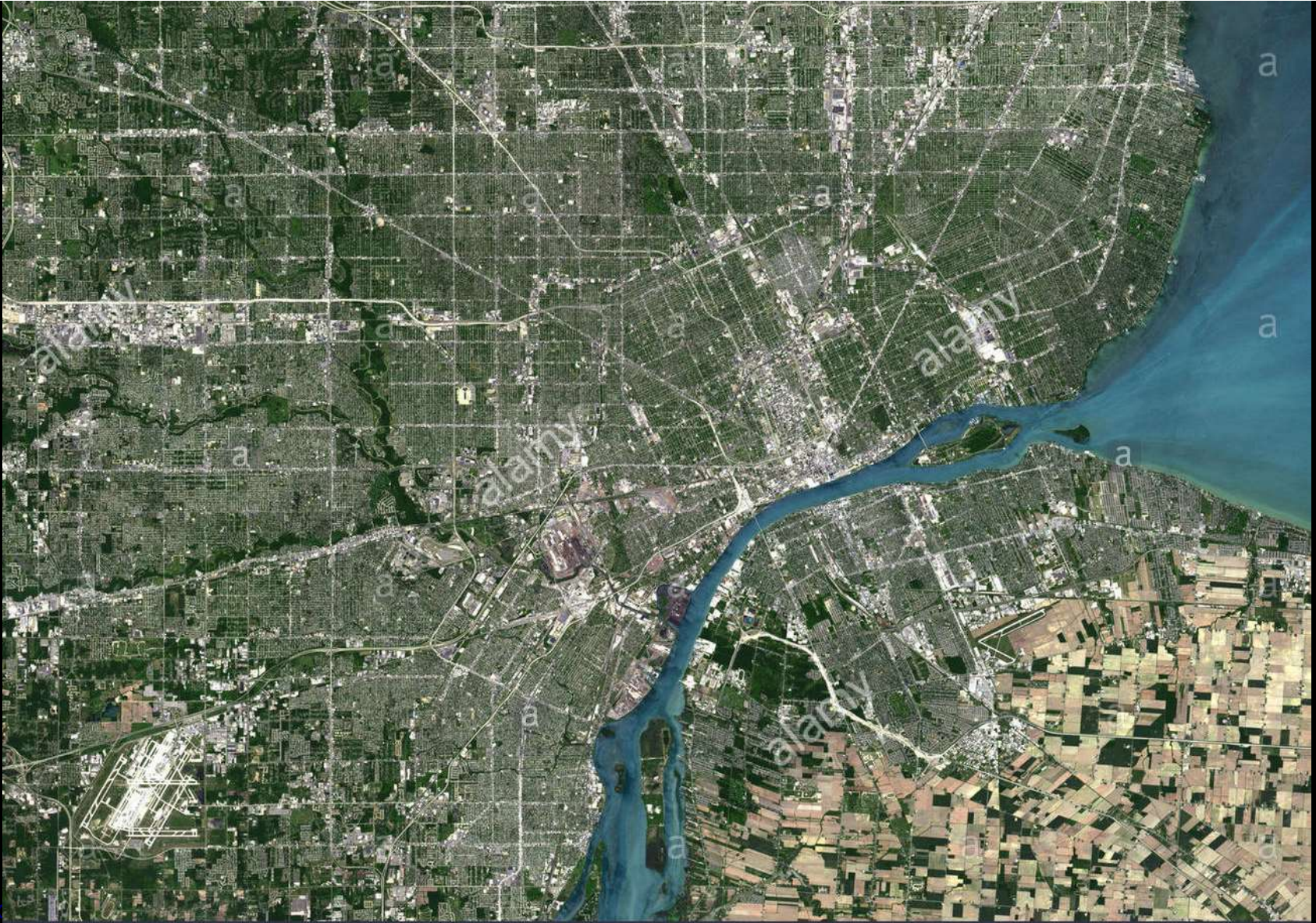
- ☐ Brought us somewhat closer to each other **59%**
- ☐ Created more distance between us / even some estrangement **8%**
- ☐ Has had no noticeable impact on our closeness with each other **32%**

A photograph of the Cornerstone Baptist Church. In the foreground, a stone pillar holds a black sign with gold lettering that reads "CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH" and "17017". The church building is a large, modern structure with a green roof and brick walls, situated behind a green lawn and a paved road. A large evergreen tree is on the left, and a "Google" logo is visible in the bottom center.

CORNERSTONE
BAPTIST CHURCH
17017

Google







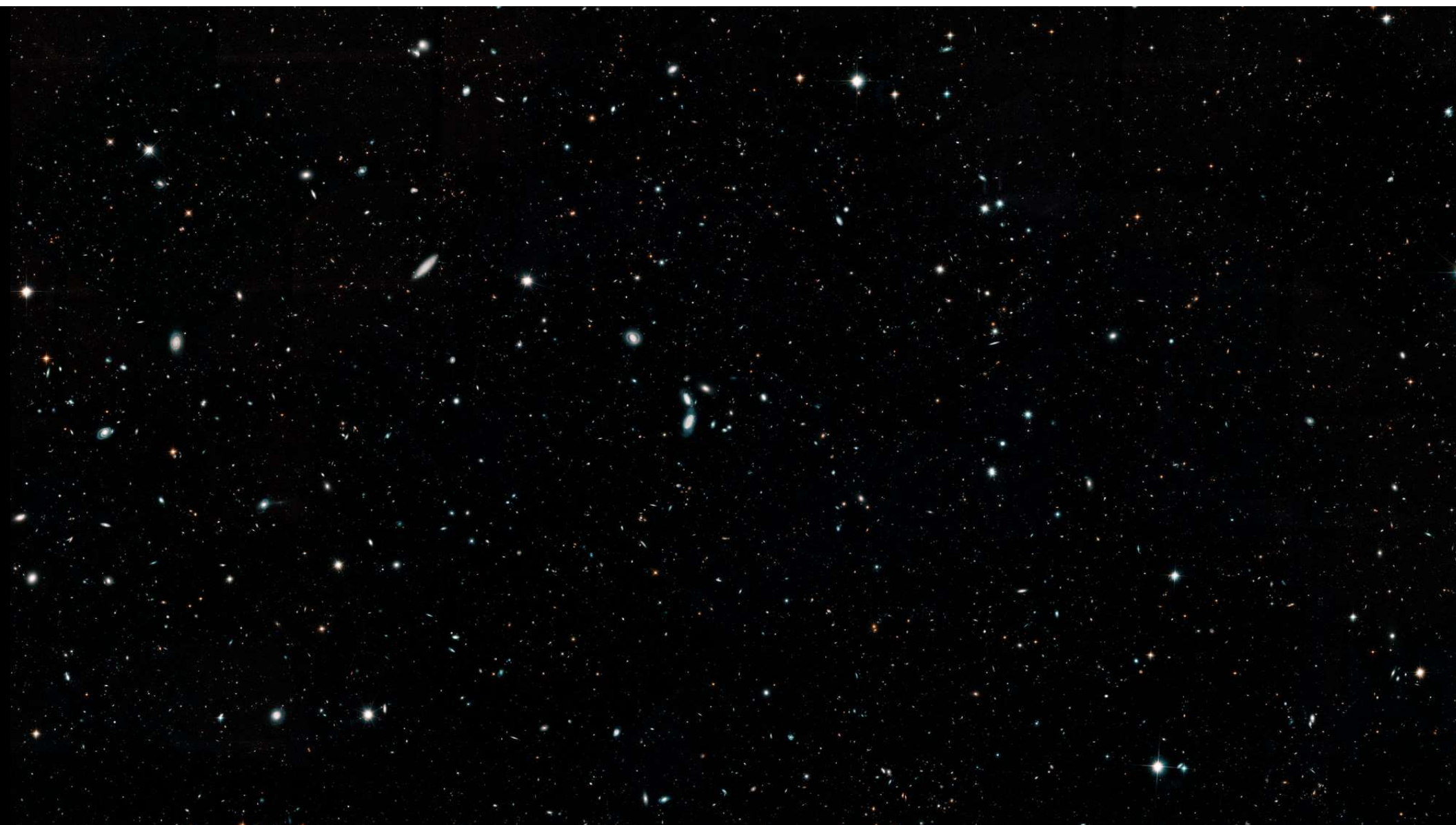




KOINON







²⁴for

“All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, ²⁵but the word of the Lord remains forever.”

And this word is the good news that was preached to you. - 1 Peter 1:24-25

♦ Peter's Double Exhortations

- Get girt and set your hope on grace (v.13)
- Be holy and don't conform (vv. 14-16)
- Fear God and act like you are redeemed (vv.17-18)
- Love deeply and act like you are purified (vv.22-25)

*²²Having **purified** your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, ²³since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God;*

- 1 Peter 1:22-23

HOPE *Set On* GRACE

¹Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, ²according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and **for sprinkling with his blood**: May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

-- 1 Peter 1:1-2

HOPE *Set On* GRACE

³Already you are **clean** because of the word that I have spoken to you. -- John 15:3

¹⁴how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, **purify** our conscience from dead works to serve the living God. -- Hebrews 9:14

A photograph of the Cornerstone Baptist Church. In the foreground, a stone pillar holds a black sign with gold lettering that reads "CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH" and "17017". The church building is a large, modern structure with a green roof and brick walls, situated behind a green lawn and a paved parking lot. A large evergreen tree is on the left, and a "Google" logo is visible in the bottom center.

CORNERSTONE
BAPTIST CHURCH
17017

Google



²²Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, ²³since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God;

- 1 Peter 1:22-23

³⁶And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. ³⁷And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, ³⁸being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship.

-- Acts 20:36-38

HOPE *Set On* GRACE

¹⁰So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and **especially to those who are of the household of faith.**

-- Galatians 6:10

³³And he answered them, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” ³⁴And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, “**Here are my mother and my brothers!**” ³⁵For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother.”

-- Mark 3:33–35

³⁴A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵By this all people will know that you are **my disciples**, if you have love for one another.”

-- John 13:34-35

¹⁴We know that we have passed out of death into life, because **we love the brothers**. Whoever does not love abides in death. **¹⁵Everyone** who hates his **brother** is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

-- 1 John 3:14-15

¹Do not rebuke an older man but encourage him as you would a father, younger men as brothers,
²older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, in all purity.

-- 1 Timothy 5:1-2

At the end of the day, *koinonia* is what matters

The church today is suffering a fellowship crisis. ... One seldom finds within the institutionalized church today that winsome intimacy among people where masks are dropped, honesty prevails, and that sense of communication and community beyond the human abounds — where there is literally the fellowship of and in the Holy Spirit.

- Howard Snyder, *The Problem of Wineskins*

We (the church) are commanded by Jesus to “love one another just as I have loved you” (as our “real” family), challenged by Peter to “love one another earnestly from a pure heart,” and encouraged by Paul to give special consideration and even preference to those in need in the church. How can we nurture this kind of brotherly love during this pandemic?

- Financial help / individuals in the body**
- Calling people to check up on them (CC)**
- Alert to those without close (saved) family ... fellowship / pray / talk**
- Community of safety, facing fears, pains, needs, honest expression of where we are**
- Isolated WITH difficult (even dangerous) relationships / give people a safe connection / pray for them**
- Show that the church is not just a building / BE the church / especially to the younger generation**
- Exhibit brotherly love as a nurturing / random acts of love (surprise people, contact with nothing but love)**
- Cards full of prayer and thanks**
- Checking on each other through texts, cards, emails, etc.**

**Malice
Deceit
Hypocrisy
Envy
All slander**

¹So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. ²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation – ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ;

- 1 Peter 2:1-3

*¹So **put away** all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. ²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation – ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ;*

- 1 Peter 2:1-3

¹So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. ²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation – ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ;

- 1 Peter 2:1-3

*¹So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. ²Like newborn infants, **long for the pure spiritual milk**, that by it you may grow up into salvation – ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ;*

- 1 Peter 2:1-3

³⁴A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵By this all people will know that you are **my disciples**, if you have love for one another.”

-- John 13:34-35

♦ For Next Time

- Read 1 Peter 2:4-12
- Encourage each other!
 - Directly, and on the Facebook group
- Meanwhile, love one another as He has loved us, so that all people will know we are His disciples
 - We need to hear from each other!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/koinoniaabfatcbc>

⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

⁶For it stands in Scripture:

*“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put
to shame.”*

- 1 Peter 2:4-6



HOPE *Set On* **GRACE**

Peter's Perspective: Zoom out, Zoom in

1 Peter 1:22 – 2:3

Lesson Five:

*Peter's
Perspective:
Zoom out,
Zoom in*

1 Peter 1:22 – 2:3