

*Yes, we are still here.* I know you haven't heard from us in a while, and I do apologize for that, but like most of us in the world today, we are still making the necessary adjustments of our time. But I can say without a hint of doubt or an iota of exaggeration, our Jesus has been Faithful every step of the way!

*Here on the Pine Ridge Reservation* we have been under a Shelter in Place ordinance since late March. Under that ordinance, we are not allowed to have open gym for the children or host short term mission groups, and we must keep any gatherings under 10 people at a time. Now obviously this has altered our ministry greatly but has not stopped Holy Spirit from working. He cannot be restricted by man's ordinances or laws. We are seeing Him do great works in the hearts of our church family and give us opportunity to have encounters with people to share His Love and Gospel.

*We have continued our Sunday services,* although they are quite different. Since we have to keep our numbers down, we have only been meeting in person here at the church with those who live in Oglala. The rest of the Church family who live off reservation have been meeting together in homes and joining us and others abroad via Zoom. It has been a great adjustment allowing more time for fellowship and a real coming together. Jesus wants us to be Family and we intend on pursuing His Desire. We have also continued our Wednesday men's and women's groups and our Tuesday and Thursday prayer meetings which are vital to the purposes of God here in Oglala. Monday through Friday, we have been offering meals to the kids in order to make sure they are fed and to keep in touch with them and remind them that they are loved, since we don't get to see them every day like we used to. Our gym has been used, just not in the way we expected, with the Tribe using it for a quarantine site from August to the end of the year.

*So, what are we to do this year?* What will 2021 look like for the Oglala Re\*Creation and Worship Center? We don't know and honestly, for the most part, we are okay with that because we know the One who does know. We have simply decided to trust Him and we can give testimony after testimony of Him leading us into His purposes. You see, years ago, we as a church set out to be those that are found abiding in Jesus. We believe Him when He told us that, "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing" (John 15:5). So if that is true (and it is!), and if what David said is also true and that, according to His Sovereign Nature,

"Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory and the majesty;  
For all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours;

Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and You are exalted as head over all." (1 Chronicles 29:11)

- then shouldn't we rest in Him and abide in Him, rather than scramble, hustle and try to "make things happen"?

*We are determined* to continue to be faithful to however the Lord may lead in the coming days, as a ministry and Church family. And that's the key, isn't it? "However the Lord may lead." We long for the Lakota people to be set free from sin and darkness and come to know their true purpose and identity in Christ Jesus, just as we always have. But we are also determined to do it His way, in His time, and according to His Glory. It is only then that we will see the everlasting fruit we desire, the fruit that Glorifies our King.

*We cannot express* how much your love, prayers, and support have meant to us over the years, especially this past year. We mean that. Your letters, notes, and faithful support have been very much appreciated and bragged about during our testimonies of God's Goodness and Faithfulness. We pray and hope that we will see you all soon and that The Lord God Almighty, our Father and King, will bless you, your family, your Church and your communities. I know these days seem dark and even frightful. But what a hope we have in Jesus and in His promises that we can and should

"look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near." (Luke 21:28)

*Sincerely in Jesus,* the Oglala Re\*Creation and Worship Center family