

### From the Pastor

Many years ago the group Petra recorded a song that said, *“Don’t let your heart be hardened. Don’t let your love grow cold”*. These words are in reference to Matthew 24:12. Jesus is talking about signs pointing toward the end of time.

\*Verse 9 talks about widespread persecution. In America this is becoming more of a trend. In some other countries Christian persecution is at a fever pitch!

\*Verse 10 warns about betrayal and hate. We hear about this daily on the news.

\*Verse 11 speaks of the rise of false prophets, and many who will be misled. Christian resources abound, and many can be attained free of charge; yet, I personally see so much biblical illiteracy in this nation, opening people up to being misled by false teaching.

\*Verse 12 foretells of an increase in lawlessness. In our country right now we have some city and state officials giving their consent to the unlawful actions of others, forbidding the protection of innocent citizens.

\*The second part of verse 12 explains that the ending result of all of this is that *“most people’s love will grow cold.”*

This is where I am so concerned for church members who remain isolated from physical worship services. A coal removed from a fire will soon cool off and grow cold. The same thing happens spiritually if one stays away from the positive influence of other Christ followers.

The purpose of this article is not to make you feel guilty. I am not judging you, but I want to motivate you. I am encouraging you to return to church if you can. If, for whatever reason, you feel it is still unsafe for you to return to church, then PLEASE get creative about some other ways to connect with other Church members—phone, zoom, facetime video, online worship services, Christian radio, etc. The writer of Hebrews said it best, *“Let us hold on to the confession of our hope without wavering, since He who promised is faithful.”*<sup>24</sup> *And let us watch out for one another to provoke love and good works,*<sup>25</sup> *not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching”* (Hebrews 10:23-25). Think seriously about this question, “Am I staying away from church out of genuine concern for myself and others, or out of personal convenience”?

I love you church family!

*Pastor P6*

**Join us in person Sunday mornings in the Worship Center for service at 9:30am. Families are welcome. We are not able to provide any childcare at this time. Remember to bring your mask and use the hand sanitizer at the Welcome Center before entering the Worship Center.** For a Live Viewing experience, join us on Facebook at 9:30am sharp where you can comment and react with others as the video airs. You won't be able to pause, rewind, or fast forward the video until it has ended and posted permanently to the Facebook page. Download the sermon notes from our website: <http://sbcep.org/sunday-services/> Let us know you joined today by filling out the attendance form: <https://bit.ly/scbep-attend> Need to send your tithe or offering? You can do that here: <http://bit.ly/ScotsdaleGive> **Is Jesus Christ your Lord and Savior?** If you're not sure, please check this out: <http://sbcep.org/about-us/will-you-go-to-heaven/> We highly recommend that you visit the above links before Sunday morning so you can be familiar with how it all works. If you have any technological issues or difficulties please send us an email at [scotsdalebaptist-church@gmail.com](mailto:scotsdalebaptist-church@gmail.com) For Sunday school classes, several teachers are finding ways to meet online. Please contact your teacher if you haven't heard any plans for Sunday school classes yet.

### Message from your Deacon Body:

#### Pastoral Needs:


As needs arise for members of the church, we want to do what we can as a church to support one another. If you are experiencing loneliness or have or know of a pastoral care need, please call the church office at 915-595-2811. Please note that our limited resources will primarily serve members of Scotsdale Baptist Church. Also, we will support any and all prayer requests.

#### Senior Saints Who Are Not Widows/Widowers:

The Deacon Body is on-call for the needs of the senior members, including couples, who do not fit the category as Widows/Widowers. If you have a special need or wish to talk, the Deacons want to help you in any way possible. Please contact Frank below if you have any need for assistance or have any questions whatsoever.

#### Widows/Widowers:

Widows and widowers should contact their assigned Deacon for any help needed. If you don't know who your Deacon is, please call Frank Robbins, the Deacon Chair, day or night at 915-478-8991 for assistance. The Deacon Ministry is here to support the church body. Please let us know how we can help you.



Parents if you would like to receive the summer bible lessons and activity pages and have not signed up, please contact **Grace Taylor** at the office so she can help set you up. This is a great tool for you to use with the kids to teach them to study God's word.