



## Day 2 Contagious Love

**Thursday, March 18, 2020**

Focal Text: *We pray that you'll have the strength to stick it out over the long haul – not the grim strength of gritting your teeth but the glory-strength God gives. It is strength that endures the unendurable and spills over into joy... - Colossians 1:11*

Isolated Together. Two words I've never before paired together. Sitting at the dinner table last night with my family of five seemed strange as our planned schedule for the evening had us in at least three different places. Now home, for the unforeseeable future, I looked around the table at my wife and children as they passed the butter and told stories of the day; our dog tilting her head as always wondering if someone would slip her a nibble of something. While it felt normal enough in the moment, I thought, "My, oh my, we are entering into a season for which we can't possibly anticipate how all will feel in three days, six days, eleven, fourteen..." How will we all hold on for the long haul?

We get creative. Maybe that's the first prayer of each day. "How can I be creative today, O God?" This creativity shows up in the ways we find to care for each other at a distance. Could you take a list of folks from our church to shepherd during this season of isolation? Many are lonely already. All need ongoing connection. Could you call and simply say, "Tell me a story about your life?" Maybe it's a pointed question each week that uncovers a new story. People need to share, connect, and engage. We'll keep

seeking new ways to creatively connect with one another during this time of isolated togetherness.

Your Broadway worship team will be leading a "Virtual Vespers" every Wednesday during this season at 5:30 PM. Tune in via our Face Book page, website, or emailed link. Prepare yourself a home communion kit and join us as we sing, pray, commune, and offer some thoughts on how to keep our Mind, Body, and Spirit sharp during this unprecedented season.

For now, lean into Paul's words as he encouraged the Colossians to tap into God's "strength that endures the unendurable and spills over into joy!" May it be so! See you for Virtual Vespers at 5:30 pm.

*--Pastor Mark*