

## Thoughts from a Well-Wisher

Dear Pastor Khoo,

When I was young, I took a Bible correspondence course. The Christian organization would mail me one lesson at a time. After reading the Bible passage in the lesson and answering the questions, I mailed the homework back to the Christian organization. Then my work would get marked and be mailed back to me together with the new lesson. There was also a Bible verse to memorize each week. Of course, in those days, there was just the regular mail, which I still think is much safer and protects one's privacy better than the use of e-mail.

Elementary school children know a lot of English, especially in your country. They are capable of reading the Bible themselves. I am helping my own students, to whom I tutor English, to read the King James Bible. When my students are in grade 2, they start reading the Bible and doing exercises related to the Bible passage.

The children in your church cannot attend Sunday school nowadays because of restrictions, but there are other ways to help them learn. Your Sunday school teachers can teach the children using Bible correspondence courses and mark the children's work and answer their questions if they have any questions. This will help the children in your church grow spiritually.

We older adults have experienced relatively peaceful times compared to our parents who experienced World War II, but this generation of children will face even great difficulties and trials.

There's no time for fun and games. They have to be strengthened in their Christian faith. They may even have to suffer and die for their faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, just like what many Christians all over the world have to do already.

Your church has Read, Pray, Grow for juniors and for teens, which will help those in these age groups read the Bible. The Sunday school teachers for these age groups can phone these students or write to them regularly to keep in touch with them and answer any questions they have regarding the Bible passages they have read during the week.

As for the younger children who are in grades 1, 2, and 3, Read, Pray, Grow at their reading level can be created for them since most grades 1 to 3 children in Singapore already know so much English that they are doing tons and tons of difficult English homework for school. If it is too much work to create this kind of daily Bible reading material, then a Bible correspondence course like the one I have described above would be of benefit to them.

Actually, the good old fashioned ways of phoning one another, writing letters to each other (snail mail), sending drawings or pictures or cards to each other are ways to have Christian fellowship with one another when it is not possible to meet in person.

We ourselves have not been able to attend church here in Vancouver for more than 15 years because most of the churches here use modern Bible versions and contemporary Christian music and engage in worldly activities, such as drinking, dancing, and watching wicked movies. The Christian fellowship we have is with like-minded believers, and they are very few, and they don't even live in our own city,

For many, many years, your church people have been very privileged to have been able to physically assemble together to learn sound doctrine. What a great treasure these church

services were, and now that they have been taken away because the government deems the physical gathering together of the saints as non-essential, you all must cherish your church services even more.

Because of more and more censorship on the internet, even your online sermons may get banned in the future. You need to plan ahead for those days because those days may come sooner than you realize. Do not delay. We advise you to start planning on what to do when online church sermons get banned.

Thank you for your sermon. May God bless and keep you all. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

In Christ,

Luis and Grace

[Email, 18 May 2020]