

Calvin and Covid-19

30 May 2020

Here are a couple of excerpts from testimonies of FEBC students who took Calvin's Institutes online, and they share their observations on what they have learned during the Covid-19 crisis.

Providence

Thank God for allowing me to learn much from Calvin's Institutes part one. I do want to say that it was indeed a tough time persevering through an FEBC online course due to the current situation of Covid-19. I thank God that He has been very merciful to Western Australia which is where I am for we have much fewer cases of Covid-19 compared to the rest of the world.

This truly reminds me of the doctrine of the providence of God that was taught in lecture nine. Indeed quoting Calvin, we are reminded that every creature, action, or motion is so governed by the secret counsel of God that nothing can happen but what is subject to His knowledge and decreed only by His will. God is Creator and Maker who governs the world by His incomprehensible counsel. It is indeed timely to find assurance from God that we can go through each day with much hope and stability knowing that our faith is anchored on Him who is Supreme over all.

Especially in such times, we can experience God's goodness, love, care, and protection. I have learned in these unprecedented times to give thanks to God daily for providing for my family and me, for keeping my husband's job, fresh food to eat, and small but important daily essentials such as toilet paper!

God is Creator and Maker and I must always submit myself to Him with reverence and humility. In such times, as living testimonies for God, we should testify concerning who He is to the unbelieving people around us. *Leah S*

Worship

During this coronavirus period, many church members seem to be hiding in their homes and not wanting to leave. Many people are afraid of the coronavirus and try to avoid it. So they do not go to church on Sunday out of fear, and they are staying at home. I cannot judge them or their faith.

Now, staying at home cannot be avoided. Unfortunately, we may be safe from the physical coronavirus, but suffer from a spiritual coronavirus. I have seen how many do not take worship at home seriously. Some worship and do their work at the same time. [Some worship in pajamas or in singlet and shorts.] They do not worship properly with all their heart. But at this moment I must check myself also. *Gouk T.*