

Good morning, Church. Daily Reading, Proverbs 12.

Colossians 4:7-9 "Tychicus will tell you all about my activities. He is a beloved brother and faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord. I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are and that he may encourage your hearts, and with him Onesimus, our faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will tell you of everything that has taken place here." (ESV)

Yesterday, I was texting my friend B. who was in Uganda with his wife D. waiting the arrival of their first child. (Congratulations, D and B)

We live in a time when news, texts, emails, and most forms of communication are instant. There was not even a minute between my texts and B's text, and he was 9000+ miles away.

When Paul wrote his letters/epistles to the churches, he sent them through trusted friends. People who would share news of Paul's circumstances, his struggles, and his victories. He wanted the churches to know his needs and how they could be involved in his ministry through prayer, giving, or visiting him.

Today, we have the unique ability to stay in contact with others around the world, but also those locally. We have the ability to know what others are facing and how we might get involved.

Yesterday, I shared a text that it was Corey's birthday and encouraged our church family to send a text wishing him happy birthday. I heard so many of you responded. Joanne said, "We received many texts to wish Corey Happy Birthday today. Phone numbers without names. We are so very grateful for our church family coming together & being so supportive, kind & compassionate."

Using our instant ability to reach out and encourage others is a gift, and we should use our resources to support others. I can not imagine going through chemo/radiation

treatments, and to do it thinking you are all alone. While Corey is confined to his home, you came to him, blessed him, and showed the love of Christ. Thank you, Church.