

Responding to the Coronavirus

4 Lessons from 1 Timothy

1 Timothy 1:15-17; 2:1-4; 5:3-8; 6:17-19

Sunday, 22nd March '20

4. Don't waste this season

- **Don't be idle**

1 Timothy 5:13

- **Nourish yourself**

1 Timothy 4:6

- **Manage your families well**

1 Timothy 3:4

Helpful free resources:

<https://www.crossway.org/articles/free-resources-for-your-stay-at-home-during-covid-19/>

For more information or if you are able to offer help:

admin@sneec.org.uk

Introduction

- How should we respond to the Coronavirus?

1. Put your hope in God

2 temptations:

- **To think that things are out of control**

"What does war do to death? It certainly does not make it more frequent; 100 percent of us die, and the percentage cannot be increased. It can put several deaths earlier, but I hardly suppose that that is what we fear. . . . Yet war does do something to death. It forces us to remember it. . . . War makes death real to us, and that would have been regarded as one of its blessings by most of the great Christians of the past." (C.S. Lewis, Learning in War-Time)

- **To pin our hopes on our own ability to solve the crisis**

1 Timothy 4:10

- **God is the King**

1 Timothy 1:17

1 Timothy 6:15-16

- **God is good**

1 Timothy 1:1-2

What do you understand by the providence of God?

Providence is the almighty and ever present power of God by which he upholds, as with his hand, heaven and earth and all creatures, and so rules them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and lean years, food and drink, health and sickness, prosperity and poverty—all things, in fact, come to us not by chance but from his fatherly hand

How does the knowledge of God's... providence help us?

We can be patient when things go against us, thankful when things go well, and for the future we can have good confidence in our faithful God and Father than nothing will separate us from His love... (Questions 27 & 28 from The Heidelberg Catechism)

1 Timothy 5:5

2. Pray

1 Timothy 5:5

1 Timothy 2:1-4

- **Pray in all sorts of ways - including thanksgiving**

- **Pray for those in authority**

- **Pray for Christians**

- **Pray for all people**

3. Be rich in good deeds

1 Timothy 6:18

- i) Care for your own family**

1 Timothy 5:3-4, 8

- ii) Help those who are really in need**

- iii) Encourage one another**

4. Don't waste this season