

Dear Friends,

I confirmed in my last prison ministry update on Sunday 23rd, that "all religious" groups chaplains and volunteers are considered essential first responders with in the Los Angeles County Jails. Today, Friday 27th, I confirmed through the office of Religious and Volunteers Services (RVS) division of the [Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department](#). The only religious group that is continuing to serve and minister in the Los Angeles County Jails is the Protestant Group. We currently have 35-40 of our 650 chaplains and volunteers, that are continuing to serve on a monthly basis in the jails. And 15-20 of the Protestant Group are serving on a daily basis with includes our team of Senior Chaplains, Chaplains, Volunteers and TMS Seminary Students with [Only Hope Prison Ministry](#).

Please continue to hold our current scaled down team in prayer, as we still currently have over 15,000 inmates incarcerated in the seven (7) active Los Angeles County Jails. By God's Grace. We will continue to preach, teach, provide biblical counselling, death notifications, inmates extractions, discipleship and help provide the inmates with re-entry housing options.

Our position with serving in the jails and prisons during the [COVID-19 crisis](#), can be summed up with [Martin Luther's response when he was confronted by questions about how to respond to The Black Death Plague](#). Martin Luther responded with these words in a letter to Rev. Dr. John Hess, found in [Luther's Works, Volume 43 page 132](#), as "Whether one may flee from a Deadly Plague, "Luther writes:

***"I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine and take it. I shall avoid places and person's where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance inflict and pollute others and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, He shall surely find me and I have done what He has expected of me and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others. If my neighbor needs me however I shall not avoid place or person but will go freely as stated above. See this is such a God-fearing faith because it is neither brash no foolhardy and does not tempt God."***

Charles Haddon Spurgeon said; ***"In times of hurricanes, throw the seeds"***

Blessings,

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