

By Captain Harryette O'Brien

Readers, you are strong, passionate, creative, intelligent, encouraging and resilient. The COVID-19 pandemic is part of our history that you now play a role in. Your days may seem longer than usual, you may not know what day it is and you may feel defeated by what you see on social media and the news—but don't let that steal your joy. God is still in control and God is still doing work among His people.

1. God Is Your Anchor

"We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure" (Hebrews 6:19, NIV). God is our anchor, and He will protect us during the storm. Sailors will use anchors on ships to keep the vessel grounded and secure. The anchor digs into the ground and provides a firm foundation for the ship. While the storm rages, the ship will not travel far because the anchor is holding firm. Friends, God is your firm foundation.

2. You Are Not Alone

We were created to be in relationship and fellowship with one another. In Romans 12:4-8, Paul urges believers to work together. He uses the illustration of a human body to show how Christians should live, work and function together. Just as the brain sends messages to various parts of the body to complete a task, Jesus directs Christians to be united in their spiritual journey. "So in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others" (Romans 12:5, NIV).

3. The Hope of Tomorrow

"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness, I say to myself, 'The Lord is my portion; therefore, I will wait for Him'" (Lamentations 3:22-24, NIV). Jeremiah was surrounded by sin and sorrow. Instead of letting it overwhelm him into depression, he found hope in tomorrow. Jeremiah knew that the Lord was faithful and would protect him regardless of the outside circumstances.

We will get through this together. The journey may take longer than anyone of us would like to, the journey may be more painful than any one of us would like, but trust that God is in control. God's compassion, mercy, protection and faithfulness never ends.

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