



THE POBLO CONNECTION



2020

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Sharing the love of Christ with Social Distancing during Covid-19 Part 2

As our community was just beginning to be a little bit at ease imagining the number of coronavirus cases declining to a level that it would soon be a story of the past. Suddenly, in the last five days the news comes that the number of patients is increasing in five states. It is our fervent prayer the Lord will bless our country, our people and cleanse our Land from coronavirus and heal the people.

Social distancing will be implemented, but will it be observed? We hope and pray churches may safely be able to continue gatherings. This means Sunday worship service, Bible studies, Children ministries, and all other programs that strengthen believers in faith will be part of our weekly life. Many activities will be done virtually. This may become the norm in the future days of our lives until there is a proven vaccine available in the market.

Jesus withdrew occasionally to rest, to pray and to be with his disciples. But mostly he was on the move going to visit new people, homes, and towns. He touched the least and the greatest without any distinction. Jesus was laying the foundation for a missionary movement. He saw people standing between faith and unbelief. The harvest was plentiful, and he did not spare any moment to teach and train his disciples how to fish. He wanted them to imitate what he was doing. And that's what happened after the Great Commission-- all the disciples went to different destinations and boldly shared the Gospel message. Today over 2.5 billion people are baptized believers. As soon as the disciples received the Great Commission they acted upon it, and went in different directions teaching, preaching and baptizing people. Jesus was saying something very meaningful to the people; believe and be saved.

Jesus had a message: Now is the time for all the believers to take action. Matthew wrote some people brought to Jesus a paralyzed man on a mat. Seeing their faith Jesus said to the man, "Take heart, son! Your sins are forgiven" (Matthew 9:2). The significant point is these men could have talked all day long about the condition of their disabled friend; instead they took direct action, and they were rewarded and their friend was healed. These friends diligently sought Jesus, and they were rewarded.

1. Visit [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](https://thrivent.com/thriventchoice).
2. Scroll down and select the "Get Started" button in the "How Do I Direct My Designated Choice Dollars" box.
3. Log in & enter your user ID & password (click on "register" if yet not registered).
4. Find the # of Choice Dollars available to direct on the right side of the screen.
5. Find POBLO International in the catalog of organizations.
6. Click on "Direct Now" to direct designated Choice Dollars.

New Evangelism Paradigm during the Pandemic

(POBLO Ministries small groups via Zoom)

'We are living in strange times!' Who could have thought that at the beginning of 2020 the whole world would be under attack, and America will not only face this deadly pandemic, but, go through tragic injustices, spawning protests, total chaos, riots, unrest and much more, due to all this our work, healthcare, sports, education, policing, politics - and our spiritual, personal social lives - all have been upended.

When so many things are going wrong, it's easy to give in to complaining, blaming, and self-pity. But prophet Daniel and apostle Paul suggest what we are supposed to "Shine like stars." They advised, against the backdrop of a "warped and crooked generation." So let's work out God's purposes, don't complain or argue, be blameless, pure, wise, and above all, lead others to righteousness. With that kind of behavior, you will contrast sharply - like stars against a black night sky - with the bitter complainers, the empty demanders, those who deny justice to others, and you will have something to offer to the hungry, hopeless, and hurting.

POBLO has started **four Zoom meetings** to stay connected with people of all ages, communities, ethnicities, and cultures to meet like minded people to dig deeper into the Word of God, ask questions, develop friendships, grow stronger in faith and be a source of comfort to those who are lonely, depressed, and are hurting due to the loss of a loved one or any other tragedy they are facing.

1-International Women's group

2-International Men's Group

(Two separate groups - Men and women from all different backgrounds, from many states and some from other countries, cultures and languages together they will dig deeper into the Scriptures, study the Biblical truths, ask

Let's do something else: By putting our talents, time and treasures in use to build the Kingdom of God. Develop a list of people you know, but who are not practicing Christians in your social circle. Add the names of those who are from other religions, Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists and Atheists. You can start a virtual prayer group of four or more people who will connect and pray for the people on your list. After four weeks of prayer, you will be ready to take action. Call to let them know you have been praying and will continue to pray for the wellbeing of their families. Introduce your prayer team to them and offer them the opportunity to join.

POBLO Ministries will be available to send you evangelism resource materials and tools for outreach. We have resource material for all the above-mentioned religions. Our missionaries will work with you case by case. And remember due to the coronavirus, lots of people are not going out for vacations instead they are staying home to be safe. Let's take action, as actions produce results. Let's build God's Kingdom.

-Rev. Khurram Khan, Executive Director POBLO ministry

Ohio Update:

H is our neighbor from Sudan who we pray for every day. We

ask God to bring opportunities to witness to her about His love and salvation. God has used us in solving some issues between her and her husband who works abroad. As she feels alone and has no one to lean on, we pray God shows her that deep and real needs can be met only through Him, and that He is her protection!

It was Saturday night when I received a call from her, she was crying and asked me and Joseph to come to her place right away. She mentioned something about a shooting!

H and her 8 year old son were asleep when she heard a very loud sound and felt the walls shaking! She was running around the house to see what it was, and checking on her girls in their room when her neighbor knocked on the door to see if they were safe! He was cleaning his gun when a bullet came out accidentally and into H's house.

When we arrived, we checked the walls, and the bullet went through 3 walls in the house!

We stayed with her until the police came to help with translation. Before we left, Joseph asked if he could pray for her. It was a miracle that no one was hurt. She is not alone and God is with her. H was crying during the prayer. We left telling her she has a brother and a sister here and she is not alone.

The same week, H called asking Joseph to take her to the emergency room! She had pain in her leg!

On the way, Joseph asked her if she ever read the Injeel (Bible) "No" she said. "It's the good news of God to you and the way of Salvation" Joseph said. "Yes, I would like to read it" she replied.

questions, and understand the true application of Law and Gospel—later they are welcome to invite their friends and seekers.

3-Family's Support group (parents of children who have turned away from God (become Atheist or Agnostics, or turned away from their Christian faith, and have converted to Eastern religions, or have lost their identity---in this meeting parents will get together, share each other's experiences, learn from each other's experiences and pray for the children).

4-Outreach to Sikhs and Hindus (A Sikh convert will lead this group in the Punjabi language) All Punjabi speaking women are welcome to attend from all over the US, Canada and anywhere else, to study the Bible, Pray, Sing in Punjabi language, and this will help them strengthens and grow in their faith.

"Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever." - Daniel 12:3 New International Version (NIV)

You are welcome to share the information about new POBLO Zoom meetings with anyone you know who you think would benefit from these groups.

Please call Cynthia Khan at the POBLO office to know about dates, times and how to join the virtual meetings.

Cynthia@poblo.org

Later, I gave her a copy of the "Gospel of John" and told her we will meet soon if she has questions about what she reads. She already has texted some questions!

We thank God who turns hard circumstances into opportunities for His glory.

* Pray for more opportunities.

* Please pray H will confess her faith in Jesus.

* Pray for wisdom and the guidance of the Holy Spirit as He walks with her through this journey.

Blessings,

Joseph and Heba Beshai, OHIO

THANK YOU
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Jesus healed my son

As a Muslim convert, I know that every Muslim believes that Jesus has the power to heal. A POBLO ESL teacher in Dearborn arranges weekly meeting to pray for the sick every Saturday. As I am a missionary in the Dearborn area, I am a part of that prayer group and invite ESL students and my other Arabic speaking Muslim friends to this meeting. Many Muslim families come to this meeting with prayer requests. I translate for them from Arabic to English.

In this meeting, we prepare food, share stories from Bible about healing miracles, share testimonies and pray with people. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we started this meeting on Zoom. A Syrian Muslim woman called me and asked me to pray for her son. She told me, he is having a heart surgery at the end of this month. He born with some malfunction of the heart, and doctors told her that her son needed surgery, there were minimal chances of survival even after this surgery.

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We started praying for her son in our prayer group regularly, and pleaded to God to heal her son. Last week, she called me and told me that the surgery was scheduled for June 25, 2020. She requested again to please pray for her son. I told her we are praying, and you should believe Jesus will heal your son with surgery. Then I prayed with her.

On June 24, 2020, she took her son to the hospital for checkup. When doctors checked her son they were surprised. They said the boy was perfectly fine and there is no need for the heart surgery. Doctors said it is a miracle because they had seen his previous reports. She called me from the hospital and said, "Jesus healed my son". I told her that Jesus is the healer, and it is written in the Bible "I will take away sickness from among you" (Exodus 23:25).

Please keep praying for this Syrian family that God opens their heart and minds so they can

understand the grace of God and His power, not just to heal them, but to deliver them from sins and save them by His blood.

POBLO Missionary, Joy Markus

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POBLO WISH LIST:

- POBLO needs a vehicle for mission work
- Prepaid gas cards for missionaries' work (speedway, BP, Meijer, Kroger, speedway, mobile etc.)
- Gift cards for refugee and new immigrant families (Walmart, Target, Meijer etc.)
- Office supplies for POBLO main office
- Bibles in various languages

