

# SILVER LININGS OF THE CORONAVIRUS

*By Will Esayenko*

Here are a few good things I have been thinking about, while reflecting on the current COVID-19 crisis. I hope they are an encouragement!

## **People are friendly! Share the Gospel!**

In my experience recently, people are more friendly than usual. There is a new home-front mentality in society. Everyone understands that we are all in the same situation, collectively fighting against an invisible foe. Because of this, people are generally more friendly than normal. I found this out the other week. One day, while removing snow, I had a man pray for me. He asked God to bless me from the top of my head to the bottom of my feet. On another day a lady—a complete stranger—gave me a bag of snacks, thanking me for the work I was doing.

Oddly enough, the fear has driven us closer together, galvanizing us against an invisible foe. People are more aware of each other and also more aware of their own mortality. With all that is going on, it is very unlikely that you will be rejected if you offer gospel comfort to those who are right now thinking about matters of life and death. If a gospel opportunity presents itself at a gas station or grocery store, take the opportunity! People are not as paranoid as you might think. Be courteous, boldly cautious, and Spirit led.

## **You have time! Strengthen your faith!**

Because of the nature of this virus we all have a little bit of extra time. Don't waste it!

Read less news (it's all the same right now anyway) and more Bible. Fight for faith! Use this time to strengthen your faith by reflecting on what God has done. Write down some memories and reflections from the past. Spend extra time in prayer, seeking God's face, and reading the word. Get a vision for the future! Write down some dreams and goals and plans. Solidify your life's mission! Read practical, faith-inspiring books and missionary biographies. These stirring accounts will keep you focused on the right things as you weather out the virus.

## **You are with family! Build your relationships!**

We are all back at home with family. This can be a really good thing or a really bad thing. Make the choice to make it a good thing. Spend extra time with family

members, getting to know and understand them better. Play a game. Talk. Pray for one another. Be an encouragement!

Keep your head up and stay focused. This will not last forever. Life is good!