

# **SHADOW MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY CHURCH**

May 19, 2020

Dear Members and Friends of Shadow Mountain,

It is now over two months since we have been allowed to meet together as a church congregation. I am sure I will have some people saying "Amen" when I tell you that these have been the strangest, most difficult, and in many ways, most amazing two months of my life. It is STRANGE after devoting almost a half-a-century to the church to be shut out from the place that is the center of all of that. DIFFICULT – to not be together, to preach to an empty auditorium, to catch myself trying to shake hands and then pulling my hand back for an elbow bump...strange and difficult indeed.

But it is the amazing part that I want to convey to you most of all. You have watched as an incredible number of people have joined us online from all over America and around the world. While reading through the emails that came this week, I wrote down some of the places of origin. Here are parts of the world that were a part of our weekend services:

- Brisbane, Queensland, Australia
- St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands
- Scotland
- · Auckland, New Zealand
- Philippines

This weekend 456 people made the decision to accept Jesus Christ as Savior, and they join over 2,000 who have made that same decision during these days of sheltering.

The little video "The Sheltering God," has only been up for six days, and it has been seen by over 50,000 viewers, and the message "Is The Coronavirus In Biblical Prophecy," has been viewed over 2 million times on YouTube. This message was converted into an article that was in the June edition of Billy Graham's *Decision* magazine, and this week was reprinted in a Christian magazine in Uganda and sent to me over the Internet. Pastor Satish Kumar emailed us this week to let us know that "The Sheltering God" video is, in his words, going viral in India! This is AMAZING. Only God could do this, and He alone is worthy of our gratitude and praise.

Last Friday, we fed another 1,000 families, and they all received a box of food which our volunteers assembled on Thursday. One thousand loaves of bread have also been provided for these families each week by an unknown donor. Each family also received one dozen eggs which we bought wholesale from a local chicken farmer, and a half gallon of milk which we buy at a discounted price from a local dairy. This week they received a bag of beautiful oranges that came through the generosity of a produce company in Kingsburg/Fresno, California. Scott Mabs is the Chief Executive Officer of Homegrown Organic Farms. We met him through a friend of Turning Point, and he gave us 1,000 bags of the most beautiful oranges you have ever seen. I speak from experience when I tell you that they are some of the juiciest and sweetest oranges I have ever eaten. Thank you, Scott, from all of us at Shadow Mountain – especially from the one thousand families who received your gift on Friday.

Here are the numbers from this last weekend:

## **English Services**

Turning Point 4,800

Saturday 5:00 p.m. 4,369

Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11,497; Sunday 10:45 a.m. 4,425

Children 1,185; Crew 260; Gathering 947; College 606; Young Adults 481

**Total: 28,570** 

## **Hispanic Services**

Sunday 2:00 p.m. 1,343; Children 342

Total: 1,685

### **Arabic Services**

Sunday 10:00 a.m. 4,600; Weekday Bible Study 3,900

**Total: 8,500** 

#### **Iranian Services**

Sunday 10:00 a.m. 407; Weekday Bible Study 549

**Total: 956** 

### Grand Total: 39,711

I think these numbers qualify as "amazing." And there is so much more. Many are meeting in Zoom Small Group Bible studies each week, including almost all the women from our regular Women's Bible Studies.

### WE ARE THE CHURCH, AND WE ARE ALIVE AND WELL.

This week we had a request to get the weekend sermon notes up on the screen prior to the service, so that viewers could get organized to take notes before the message starts. We are going to try to get that done this week.

Copies of "Shelter In God," have arrived or are arriving at your homes this week. This weekend's message is from the Psalms, and I promise you it will be encouraging.

Perhaps the most AMAZING thing, of all the amazing things that are happening at Shadow Mountain, is the way you have been giving of your tithes and offerings during these uncertain days. Because you continue to make that a priority, we are able to reach people with the gospel and touch them with the love and grace and generosity of our great God! Thank you for your faithfulness EXCLAMATION POINT!

Love from your pastor,

David Jeremah David Jeremiah

Senior Pastor