

## *Let Your Light Shine Through Change*

*During the last few weeks, a group of women in our church have started texting each other on a regular basis. This gives us an opportunity to keep in touch with each other, share many laughs and offer encouragement that we need to get through this difficult time of the 2020 COVID-19 virus.*

*A few weeks ago, I watched an excellent movie: “The War Room.” It has an amazing story line about Elizabeth’s troubled life and learning how **God can change her life**. Elizabeth, a real estate agent, met Mrs. Clara when she went to list her house. Sensing that Elizabeth was burdened with something, Mrs. Clara asked her about her church life. Lacking a life including God, Mrs. Clara mentors Elizabeth by showing her that through prayer and believing in Jesus, she can change her life. Mrs. Clara explained to Elizabeth that she needed a War Room. Mrs. Clara’s War Room is a closet with a chair, her Bible and her private place to pray. She encourages Elizabeth to find a place in her home where she could have a War Room. When she does, things begin to happen.*

*As we live in isolation for an unknown length of time due to the virus, we quickly learn that things are not going to be the same. We have to **change in the way we worship** by using social media; but yet, we are still worshipping together. We are able to be a part of the service by writing comments to the pastor. We know that our brothers and sisters in Christ are watching as well, giving us a feeling of togetherness and fellowship.*

*We have had to **change the way we work**. A lot of people have been fortunate to be able to work from home. But when one considers the unemployment numbers, it is obvious that many have been laid off.*

*I believe that this is a time, more so than any other we have experienced, to set up our own War Room. A War Room is simply an area that you can call “your special place”; one where no one else is invited. It could be a desk in a corner, a swing out on the porch or a comfortable chair in the living room. This “special place” is where you can meditate, read God’s word and pray. This **change in our lives** leads us to pray for those affected with the virus and their families. In addition, we need to pray for everyone involved in fighting this pandemic: the firefighters, first responders, ambulance personal, and all of the staff in the hospitals and nursing homes.*

*We can **change our priorities**. Let us get back to the basics of family and friends. Reach out to them-call someone to show you care or mail them a card. This gesture can do a world of good to someone that is in isolation in their own home.*

*Even though some of the changes are difficult to deal with, we can continue to **let our light shine!** By doing this, we will be able to let others know about our steadfast love, trust and faith in God. A God that will not desert us during this difficult time, but will stand right beside us, giving us the strength we need for changes.*