



## *Monday Morning Missive*

**“I’ve got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart! Where? Down in my heart.” Do you remember that old song. It is so descriptive of how we as believers should feel every day – not because everything is always good but because the joy of the Lord gives us the strength to face everything whether it is good or bad. So, I pray “joy” for you today.**

**We had a great day in worship yesterday. More and more of you are feeling comfortable enough to come back to the sanctuary for corporate worship. We are committed to making sure that we do everything possible to make it safe for you, so as God gives you the peace about returning to on-campus worship, please do so. We need you, and I truly believe that you need us. Another**

**blessing from yesterday was that Jeff and Tammy Hathcock joined our family. We are excited to have them with us.**

**There are two very important things that I want to share with you today. First, I want to let you know about our plans for Operation Christmas Child. Our leader, Marilyn Eddins, has decided that our best way forward is to ask you to donate money, and we will purchase the pre-filled boxes from Samaritan's Purse. Each box is \$25. Now, you can go online and select the items that you want in the box, or Marilyn will do it for you. We will get you the information about how this all works in the very near future. We will have a page setup that you can go to if you choose that direction. Otherwise, just designate the amount of your offering that you want to go to Operation Christmas Child.**

**Second, I very seldom ask you to take a stand on issues because I trust the Holy Spirit to guide you in the right way. However, there is an issue that I**

want to share with you that I believe warrants my calling attention to it. If you have Netflix, please consider canceling your account. Here is the reason. They are promoting a show named “Cuties” that is nothing short of child pornography. You can go online and read about it without having to view it, and just reading about it will make you sick to your stomach. Honestly, the only way we will be able to impact these kinds of issues is to make sure that our money doesn’t support them. As I shared yesterday, God has been really putting me through a ringer when it comes to what I do with my time. We have canceled our Netflix account and are doing away with our cable because you can’t even watch a decent show without being bombarded by nudity, profanity, and immorality in the commercials. The Bible says that we are to take every thought captive, and that is impossible when we are allowing so much of this trash to enter our minds through media. I am also severely limiting my social media connections due to the same reasons. We are called to be holy – to stand apart

**from the world. And that is what I am going to do. Will you join me? If not, I will never judge you because you must do what the Holy Spirit directs you to do.**

**Pray for your Leadership Team. We are meeting on Wednesday afternoon to discuss moving to the next phase of opening up our facilities for church activities. We need to begin meeting with committees and having business meetings to discuss our year-end activities. So pray that God will give us wisdom on how best to do this.**

**One final thing: I want to say thank you to Forrest Jones and his team of workers who made our Marriage Night such a fantastic blessing. Everything was perfect – except for the chairs – but we made it through.**

**Keep praying because I know that God is up to something big.**

**Bro. Ben**