**Step Back: Let GOD**

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Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him, and He will act. Ps. 37:5 ESV

“Lockdown” – the most widely heard these days, be it in cities or the countryside. My name is Grace, and this is my COVID-19 lockdown reflection.

Missionaries in all parts of the world are thinking about ways how to sustain the mission work. Churches were closed and services were done online, with no house visitations and social gatherings, and the to and fro of villagers to town were being monitored. A lot of things had happened for the past few days. However, these never hindered our language learning with the Pastor and his wife. I found this an opportunity to learn more vocabulary words and practice what I learned with them. Though we may have closed our doors during this health crisis, we remained as front liners through kneeling in prayers.

What can we do now? Well, at some point, I still consider this as a blessing for all of us. Quarantine made us stop and think back to our life’s purpose. We were then too much occupied with our jobs, investments, studies and even with our church duties. But it’s not about how many accomplishments we’ve done for God that counts; it’s about our “personal” relationship with Him. How’s our walk with God going so far? We might be fully working for God, but still, our hearts are far from Him. And so, this is the time for us to meditate and think about our spiritual condition. It’s also the time to reconnect with others through social media and grow spiritually--special thanks to Facebook Groups that help us keep up with our brother and sisters online, and also help us to be encouraged despite the situation we are into now. I’ve learned many things in every discussion.

Sometimes, we think about death, and it scares us. Aren't we afraid of it? It's somehow normal for humans. We always face the possibility of death every day, but God forbids it for reasons we don’t know. All we know is that we just have to fully trust His ways for us. Friends, let’s not put God’s work into our own hands by continuing our usual ministry routine by closely interacting with people physically, thinking the ministry must go on – that’s self-pride. We must abide by the laws and regulations of the land. Remember, God can do any means even without our presence. However, we can still minister to others through social media, spend most of our time strengthening ourselves with God, and devote ourselves in prayer. For now, let’s just STEP BACK and let God be God.

Prayer requests:

-for the church members to stand firm

-for the village to open their hearts to know Jesus

-for every church to help encourage one another

-everyone’s protection