

Fall 2020

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything." James 1:2-4



Do you feel like this applies to your life right now? Trials and tribulations during this COVID-19 time are everywhere. The familiar and the routines have gone by the wayside or significantly changed. I find the lack of personal touch hard to get used to—the handshake, hug, or pat on the back. While it is challenging, as James says, there is a silver lining—to produce better character, so we can be matured in our life and faith and be better salt and light in a very dark and needy world. **Look positive to what this time can accomplish in and through you, and be grateful for what you have rather than what you don't. Then, when things get better, we can enjoy those things we took for granted, a lot more.**

Things with me haven't changed much—still working full-time from home, not traveling much, but getting good, regular exercise walking and biking—even lost a little weight. I think I'm even eating better. Without traveling back and forth to work, I have more time to prepare better, healthier meals. I'm also enjoying interacting with my neighbours and attending our church (which we have been doing for two months now).



While our short term program is still suspended, I am still working with a few inquirers about possible service next Spring onward, hoping things will be much more possible by then. **Pray for that to happen.**

This Fall I will not be heading to my annual visit to the coast, citing the present situation, but stay close to home. I plan on using other options to "visit" my supporting churches and other groups. I will miss the in-person connection with people the most—no technology can make up for that.

My promotion travels will also look quite different. Most of the colleges I go to are presently not allowing outsiders to come and visit and speak in chapel or set up booths, so, again, I will be using other means to "visit", either videos or Skype visits. It will be good to keep as much in touch with the colleges as one can under the circumstances. As for mission conferences, some are not going ahead while others are still hoping to—Vancouver Missionfest, for example is going to be virtual—how it is all going to look and turn out is anyone's guess, but we shall take part and see. **Pray for me for wisdom and creativity to promote the work of ACTION to where it is needed to be heard and to raise up people willing to serve with ACTION.**

My annual Ride for CiC (Children in Crisis) 2020 will happen, which will take place in October. This ride is needed now more than ever previous years. Donations to ACTION is presently in the red, down around 25% over last year so far and most of that comes at the expense of our programs—feeding programs, education, emergency relief, sports and other programs for children, youth, and families. The funds raised from this ride will go into our CiC fund, to be available for missionaries to apply for to help with new initiatives or assist in short falls, so existing programs can continue. The poor and vulnerable suffer the worst during this time and our programs are essential for many in need. This year I want to raise the largest amount ever—\$5000CDN. You can find out more and give online at: <https://www.actioninternational.org/campaign/152/scott-gillespie-ride-for-cic-2020>. You can send a cheque/money order, made out to "Action International Ministries", with a note that says, "For Scott Gillespie's Ride for CiC 2020". You can send an e-transfer to: helen.thompson@actioncanada.org, mentioning that it is for the Ride for CiC. Please consider giving as generous an amount as you can or sharing about this with friends, family and church; any gift of \$10 or more is tax-receiptable. **Please pray that people will be generously and that my goal will be achieved and giving to ACTION will increase.**



May the Lord continue to bless you richly.

Scott



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