

“. . . whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of Mine, you did for Me” (Matt. 25:40, NIV).

If you're like many, you're quarantined at home through this COVID-19 pandemic. It can be lonely — cut off from friends, family and even your community of faith. What you're experiencing is a sense of loneliness that is all too familiar for many of our elderly, including the precious Mission:Dignity® recipients we serve.

Our Mission:Dignity recipients are among the population most affected by this new virus, and we are committed to making sure they are not forgotten in the hustle and bustle of this pandemic.

And we thank you for remembering them during this time, too. You have done so for the “least of these,” and we are grateful.

We want you to know that we are being proactive in caring for these dear soldiers of the cross during this time of uncertainty. They may feel alone, but we are reassuring them that they are not — we're here!

Every employee at GuideStone® has been calling every single recipient, letting them know they are loved and that we care — you can imagine the response has been incredible.

My check-in call was to Ray Bridmon, who pastored — mostly in Winston County, Alabama — for 52 years. “We've pastored in this area for so long, the kids we won to the Lord are now having grandkids,” said Ray, whose wife of 60 years is Rachell.

At age 80, Ray is still a bivocational pastor at Rock Creek Baptist Church, Double Springs, Alabama. He receives a meager salary, as the church averages between 20 and 30 in attendance. The monthly grant from Mission:Dignity helps him to continue his pastorate. “You help us do what we love,” said Ray. “Mission:Dignity helps us to live on a normal basis. We don't have much, but we live good, thanks to the donors to Mission:Dignity.”

Ray asked for prayer for the two young men he will ordain as deacons next month. “We're still sharing Christ and helping others,” he said, “but I've outlived my previous deacon body. These two will help the next generation.”

Will you pray for Ray and Rachell and continue to give so that he and others will continue to share God's love during these days of uncertainty?

Working together,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aaron J. Meraz', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Aaron J. Meraz, Ph.D., D.Min.