

December 2019

Dear Friend,

Recently, a friend asked me, *"How's Portland Fellowship holding up with a culture that despises the truth of God and the message you communicate?"* This type of question is not rare; in fact, it's a question I'm often asked. Yet, I love the question, for each time it's asked, it reminds me that God is still mightily at work in the lives of His people! In spite of an ever-growing movement to discredit and eliminate us, God continues to amaze us all by how He uses Portland Fellowship to provided encouragement, discipleship and prayer for those in need of freedom in Christ and victory over sexual and relational brokenness.

To keep our focus on the truth and power of God, we must keep our minds and hearts firmly on what He is doing, rather than on the whirlwind of deception and discouragement from the world. I love how the Apostle Paul exhorts the church of Corinth when he writes, "*Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."* 1 Cor. 15:58

I echo Paul's words back to each of you. Thank you for standing firm and not letting anything of this world move you. Thank you for giving of yourselves and believing in this ongoing work of God, knowing that this labor is not in vain, but is to glorify God and build up His people. We are encouraged by each of you.

We are excited to end 2019 not only with a deep appreciation for a Spirit-led year, but with great anticipation of the many lives God will transform in the year ahead. I'm sure it will come with its own unique set of challenges, but if the Lord is for us, nothing can be against us! We will continue to offer light on the hill in our very dark city and world, and appreciate your prayers for protection, wisdom and provision while we do so.

As always, we invite you to partner with Portland Fellowship with a year-end gift. For those who have already given a year-end gift, we once again thank you! Your friendship is so valuable to us.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your family,

Jason Thompson Executive Director

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