

# TESTIGOS CRISTIANOS DE JEHOVÁ

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February 28, 2020

TO ALL CONGREGATIONS

Re: Coronavirus Outbreak

Dear Brothers:

As you are likely aware, various governments are monitoring the spread of a virus, which authorities refer to as “novel coronavirus 2019”. Authorities have traced the outbreak of this virus to a certain province in China. While we do not wish to cause panic or unnecessary alarm, we are writing to acknowledge this concern and to provide basic reminders about good hygiene, which can protect us from a variety of illnesses. This in harmony with Proverbs 22:3, which says: “The shrewd one sees the danger and conceals himself.”

**What precautionary measures should be taken?** If the local government recommends precautions or implements restrictions, it is best to obey these “superior authorities.” (Rom. 13:1) In addition, various health agencies have recommended being especially alert to practice good hygiene, such as:

- Frequently clean your hands with soap and water or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unclean hands
- When coughing and sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with your elbow or a tissue. Throw the tissue away immediately and wash your hands
- Avoid close contact with anyone who has fever and cough
- If you have fever, cough, and difficulty breathing, seek medical care immediately and share your travel history with your health care provider. In such cases, it would be a kindness to avoid contact with others. The elders will also make arrangements for you to benefit from the meetings via JW Stream
- Avoid the consumption of raw or undercooked animal products
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Be discerning and balanced with greetings and expressions of affection. Love will move us to respect whatever personal decision others have made in this regard
- If any have recently been in a high risk area, please be extremely cautious in applying the above-mentioned precautionary measures

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We appreciate your loving cooperation as we continue to care for one another. We look forward to the time when we will no longer have to deal with pestilences. (Isa. 33:24)

Please be assured of our warm Christian love and best wishes.

Your brothers,

*Testigos Cristianos de Jehová*

c: Circuit overseers

PS to circuit overseers and coordinators of the bodies of elders:

The coordinator should arrange for this letter to be read at the next congregation meeting. Thereafter, the letter should be posted on the information board for one month. If a congregation is scheduled to attend the circuit assembly, the circuit overseer will arrange for the letter to be read by the chairman during the opening remarks.