

MILE ONE MISSION

GOSPEL CHURCHES FOR NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR



Kilbride Community Church

“Therefore, since we have a great high priest who passed through the heavens – Jesus the Son of God – let us hold fast to our confession.”

November 1, 2021

Considering it all joy...

As Christians, we like to tell ourselves things like “God reigns” or “God is sovereign” when we (or other people) are going through rough patches or times of uncertainty. And by all means we should keep on reminding ourselves of these central truths as a means of encouragement.

October was one of those months that started off fairly normal. The leaves on the trees were changing, the rain was falling, and road works were a familiar sight around the city. It was also an exciting month with our newest church planting putting the finishing touches on their first community Bible study.

We always knew that planting a church in the Downtown core would be met with challenges and opposition but we never expected it to come on day 2 of our newest plant. In comparison, Kilbride Community Church has been around since 2019 and has yet to encounter any form of tangible pushback from our community. And so when it happened on day 2 for the new plant, we were a little surprised.

For the better part of 7 days, Mile One Mission, the new plant and Kilbride Community Church were greeted (hourly) on social media with many vocal critics, insults, mockery, false accusations and lies. We were protested on Facebook, local government officials and businesses were contacted and complained to, and we needed to assess and sift through the proper way to handle such public opposition by a very vocal demographic.

So we prayed. And we prayed some more. And then we prayed again.

The previous two weeks have been difficult filled with many trials and temptations.

As we endured this particular season, the words of James came to mind.

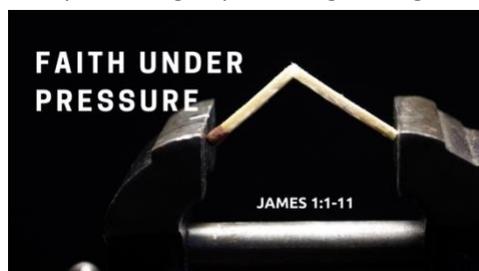
“Consider it all joy whenever you encounter trials of many kinds...because the testing of your faith will produce endurance...”

As believers, we aren't called to have a flippant joy when life is less than desirable. I mean, the reality is that none of us enjoys going through a trial – emotionally, they are draining. But we can consider the trials of life with joy knowing what the trial produces: endurance (or perseverance). The trials of life, according to James, are there to mature, strengthen and increase our faith and trust in God.

Naturally, this is difficult and we will struggle but we can look to the one who endured greater struggles and more persecution when we are weak, doubting, and wrestling through the trials of life.

James 1:1-11

Last year, I began preaching through the book of James for Calvary Baptist and found it quite refreshing



to work through systematically. James is a book that encourages us (and confronts us) to examine how we are responding in three general areas: trials and temptations, words and actions, and wisdom and finances. In light of everything that had gone down in the previous two weeks, I found it fitting and encouraging to preach again from James 1 and what our response should be to the trials of life.

Not only are we – as a church – working through vaccine passports, public perception and online protests, but each one of us have our own personal trials that are added to the mix.

And so, to encourage KCC, I reminded them of why we can consider it joy when trials come in our lives.

Here's a link to the sermon: [click here](#)

Trunk or Treat



Because Kilbride is a bedroom community, we needed to be extremely creative with our outreach. There's not a lot to do in Kilbride. And so, three years ago we decided to do a Trunk or Treat (basically, you decorate your car and fill up the trunk with candy). This year was our third year doing it and it went off with a bang! It was great to see people gossiping out, being excited and enjoying a different way to do 'trick or treat'.



Outreach

We also have a few things in store to reach out to our community in December. The KCC team are busy working away at doing our first *Cookies and Carols*. If all our plans work, we'll invite people to our local community centre to sing carols, eat cookies and hear a Christmas story. It's going to be real low-key and it's our way to bless those who come and to continue building relationships.

Also, we are planning on going to some of the businesses in Kilbride throughout December to give cards and greetings and to make ourselves known. It's a simply way to say 'hi' and be amongst our community.

Supper and Pie

Earlier in November we opened our home and welcomed in a couple of families from the neighbourhood to share in a meal and, on another occasion, to eat pie! I mean, who doesn't love pie? My wife and I are trying to be real intentional with our neighbours and what better way than to do it over food! It was super encouraging to meet new people. In fact, both of the families checked out the KCC facebook page and one of them expressed interest to coming out to church!

Praise the Lord!

Prayer Requests

Join with us in prayer.

1. Pray for clarity and wisdom to navigate the vaccine passport program as it relates to public gatherings
2. For protection and wisdom as we endure protests
3. For divine opportunities to meet more people in our community