Covid, Christians, and Cannibalism

Pastor Kelly Sensenig

When will the Covid pandemic be over? Hopefully sooner than later. Most of the people I talk with are getting tired of everything that has been linked with the covid outbreak: vaccinated versus unvaccinated, masks versus no masks, when to mask and when not to mask, where to go versus where not to go, or mandates versus no mandates, etc. No matter which side you are on when it comes to these issues, everyone seems to be getting somewhat frustrated with the whole epidemic. Oh, to be normal again! Whatever that is!

During the remainder of this pandemic, Christians should remember to be considerate toward others and not become rude, overbearing, and judgmental when it comes to shots, mandates, and face coverings. Individual choices will be made regarding these matters but all of us must remember to be gracious, serving, tenderhearted, forgiving, and kind toward one another (Eph. 4:32) during all the pandemonium associated with this pandemic. Nor should we "falsely accuse" one another about their relationship and walk with God (1 Pet. 3:16) over these pandemic particulars or become desensitized to the needs of others during this time. Instead, we should seek to serve others as much as possible (Gal. 5:13).

Galatians 5:15 reminds us: "But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another." Someone has called this "Christian cannibalism." This is because if we are not careful we can become quarrelsome, backbiting, and devouring one another over the issues of masks, vaccinations, and other issues associated with the pandemic. The Bible says we should not "bite and devour" one another or argue over these types of things but instead love one another in our local churches in spite of the different choices and opinions that we might have during these pandemic times. We can agree to disagree and then go out and have lunch together!

Of course, we should not "bite and devour" others within our societal relationships either. We need to remember that a house divided against itself cannot stand (Luke 11:17). So, we should let our Christianity shine during this Covid outbreak and not become cannibalistic toward God's people and our fellow Americans. Remember the Golden Rule that Jesus gave? "Therefore all things

whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets (Matthew 7:12). The way you treat others should be the way that you would want them to treat you! With this in mind, trade in your cannibalism for Christlike character and conduct.