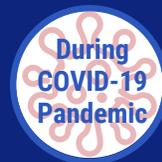




Monday Messages to Students from Alumni



From a 2000s Graduate: *I know this is not what you had in mind as part of your "college experience" but of all the college's you could be at (or not be at) right now, you are in one of the most enriching, encouraging, and even protective places. No other college (or university) takes care of its students the way Berea does. So, while your college experience definitely has a different look and feel to it, still embrace it. You have the knowledge, the strength, and the perseverance to not only "make it" but to thrive and succeed. You've got this!*

From Edward D. Smith Class of 1970: *Dear Berea Students, Please stay focused, determined, and safe during this Covid-19 Pandemic. It too shall pass eventually. You are young and in the prime of your lives, so take advantage of all of Berea's opportunities. What I appreciate most about my student years at Berea was the college opportunities offered me both on campus and off. Although the college might not have always gotten it right in times of crisis, remember that you are fortunate to be at this historically unique institution that is continually striving to better serve economically disadvantaged students from among all peoples of the earth.*

From a 1980s Graduate: *Hang in there and this too shall pass. It seems that there might be no end to COVID-19 but this too shall pass. "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding." – Proverbs 3:5-6*

We all want God to answer our prayers. We believe in the power of prayer, but when it comes down to our own individual lives and problems, we often don't have the faith to believe that God will answer. Unbelief and independence trap us. But God wants to enlarge our territory and bless us with increase, because His nature is to bless. Our lack of faith and our fear of stepping out in dependence on Him are what get in the way. The truth is that the things we do for God should be outside of our own abilities; they should be evidence that we are trusting in His supernatural ability.