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And So We Are At War: Dealing With Reality And Uncertainty

At the onset of war with Iraq, all of us must be willing to deal with the seriousness and reality of what war means. The outcomes of 'Operation Iraqi Freedom' are unknown to us at this time, yet we feel with almost certainty that harm will come to many individuals, families and communities. We may especially be concerned if we have a family member, friend, or neighbor serving in the military or working overseas.

These are difficult issues to process whether we are for or against the war. None of us like war. But this is a major national and world event that we alone cannot control. At this time it is essential that we have faith and confidence in our leaders, regardless of our political position or religious beliefs. We can differ in opinion. We can be angry with the decisions made. We can speak out for what we believe. We have the responsibility to stay well-informed of current affairs but we also have the responsibility to continue with our daily tasks. Daily affairs include our responsibilities of caring for our personal and family well-being, maintaining and fulfilling work responsibilities, participating in community activities, and continuing active participation in local, state, national, and international issues whenever given the opportunity.

We need to be concerned about war and yet we don't want to overreact. We can best help ourselves, our partner, our children, our family, our workplace and our community by caring for one another, allowing communication channels to be fluent, trying to maintain an open-mind, and supporting those who have been called to serve in the U.S. military. It will also help to pray for those in leadership roles. Although this is a difficult time for us with many uncertainties and unknowns, we must allow conversation to take place regarding feelings and concerns about the war and the possible implications this has for us as individuals, families, communities, our nation and world.

