

Sloane Larsen 0:01

Okay, so

how are you doing?

Parker Beverly 0:06

I'm doing fine. How are you?

Sloane Larsen 0:08

I'm doing well. Thanks for asking. Um, so is it okay if I ask you a few questions kind of about your experience with COVID-19? how it changed kind of your way of life and all that?

Parker Beverly 0:21

Yes, of course, that'd be great.

Sloane Larsen 0:23

Okay, cool. So, um, could you talk about the first time you heard about COVID-19? And when you realized it was really gonna affect your life?

Parker Beverly 0:34

Yeah. So the first time I heard about COVID-19, was right before spring break, I was about to travel home to Pensacola, Florida. And I was going to fly and so my parents were telling me about COVID-19. And to be sure that I stayed safe. I brought some masks home, had all kinds of supplies I brought home to make sure we were safe. When I got back, and I think probably the first time I realized it would affect me In a way, was when President Hatch decided to postpone the in person classes in March. And I think that was the first time that I realized that that would be a significant impact. I wouldn't be going back to the school. Until who knows when. So, that that was definitely a major reason I think. Yeah.

Sloane Larsen 1:21

Um, and during that transition into being at home, online learning, like, Can you talk about what became your new normal, your day to day experience? And all that?

Parker Beverly 1:35

Yeah. Well, it's something that was definitely different for me was not walking to classes. That was really my favorite part of my day was being able to experience the beauty of Wake Forest and see all the wonderful landscaping, your birds you know, the squirrels, all that good stuff, and wasn't able to experience that and of course, get out and enjoy nature as much. So that was that was different for me, but also my bedroom. My living room became my office and my classroom, which was also very different. And instead of having those in person connections with my classmates and professors, I was forced to do it via Zoom or in some other kind of way. And so it was really different. But I tend to go with the flow and kind of roll with the punches

when it comes to these kinds of things. So I think I adapted well, but I was really happy because my, my new classmate was my dog. And that was always great to have my buddy with me.

Sloane Larsen 2:32

Yeah, of course. Um, and so you're, you're talking about how you missed all these things. Was there a certain way that you kind of were able to fulfill that same thing you really liked to do? In this new setting, this new environment? Was there anything that changed like to kind of develop any new hobbies, anything like that?

Parker Beverly 2:54

That's a good question. So I was able to stay connected with my friends of course through social Media through texting, and also through Zoom, we visited sometimes via Zoom. So that was fun. But I think also I gained a greater appreciation for the contacts and relationships that I had. Because I wasn't able to see them in person, even my grandparents and other family members I wasn't able to see in person whereas I might have done that. Had I been able to and I think I really gained a greater appreciation for that human contact that I really did have that before but a greater appreciation I think.

Sloane Larsen 3:35

Um, so do you think there are any factors in your life that kind of affected the process that you went through, um, when this all started to change?

Parker Beverly 3:51

I think definitely the distance from Wake Forest to my home was quite an impact because all of my belongings were still at Wake Forest. I didn't have any of my textbooks, any of my clothes really, all kinds of things were still in school because I'm about 10 hours away. And so I wasn't able to just go off and get my stuff like some other people could. So that was definitely something that affected me because I didn't have those things and also the move out process that was definitely quite the task, especially a 10 hour long car ride back and forth. And having to get in the dorm with just two other people and transport everything down in two hours was definitely quite the task. So I think that was definitely something that was important in the transition.

Sloane Larsen 4:43

Um, and so Wake, obviously transitioned into online classes. Would you mind talking a little bit about your experience, maybe what, what classes did what different professors did to kind of help with that transition into online learning without really having any prior experience with it?

Parker Beverly 5:03

Yes, of course. So all of my classes, of course, we're back online. And it was an interesting process because I think some professors adopted more quickly and more easily than others, which is to be expected because they weren't necessarily trained to work online. But all of my classes really adapted well. And were, there was a really smooth transition. I think, especially

with my Spanish class, I had a great time in that class. And my professor did a wonderful job of making sure that we were still communicating with each other in Spanish and small groups via the breakout rooms in Zoom. We still had our group discussions about different literary texts, we were reading all kinds of things, and we even had oral components that we did together online for grades so that was great. My history class was also just as fun online. We still had a great time with our analysis of different aspects of historical texts. My professor did a great job of making sure all of his PowerPoints are engaging and informative still. And I really think my professors just did a great job, considering the circumstances. So I still had a great finish to my spring semester, which I was very happy about.

Sloane Larsen 6:17

Yeah. Do you think that there are any subjects that you took that were particularly difficult to kind of transfer that like discussion or, like learning onto an online platform?

Parker Beverly 6:32

Yes, I think my philosophy of religion class, that was that was a little bit difficult, because I think philosophy is something that you really have to question and, and think about in a different way than some other subjects so that that one was a bit different doing that one online. But other than that, everything was pretty much the same.

Sloane Larsen 6:50

Cool. Um, now reflecting back on this time and kind of looking forward, do you think that COVID-19 has affected any of your relationships in a significant way, or how you view some of your relationships with people?

Parker Beverly 7:09

Yeah, that's a good question. So something I couldn't necessarily do throughout COVID-19 was be with my grandparents. Both my grandmother's have compromised immune systems due to different reasons. And so we didn't want to be around them and to make sure that we didn't give them the Coronavirus if we know somehow, God didn't know. So that was something that was really different for me was not being able to spend time with them. So we were forced to communicate via online platforms, via FaceTime and other things like that. So that that was good that we can still maintain that relationship. But I think it was interesting to try and build a technology based relationship since it's not necessarily one that we had prior to that. So I think it changed in that way, but I think it changed for the better because we even got closer, despite not having that human contact.

Sloane Larsen 8:05

Yeah, of course, do you think in the future, when this starts to subside, it's gonna affect kind of how you like talk with them and everything. Do you think you're going to continue using online platforms? Or like, how do you think it could affect the future?

Parker Beverly 8:23

Yes, of course. So I think that it could, especially with me being 10 hours away in college. I think that that could be a very useful platform for me to actually communicate with them that way. Actually, one of my grandmother's just moved into the technology age over the span of this virus, so she could communicate with family. So I'll definitely be doing that. More with her when I get back to Wake Forest.

Sloane Larsen 8:50

That's awesome. Um, and again, like reflecting back on what's happened in the past few months. Do you think your values have changed at all? Do you view anything differently or anything like that?

Parker Beverly 9:05

Yes, I think that as I mentioned previously, that relationships can develop a lot, especially, like I mentioned with my grandmother's, I think that I, I value these relationships more than I might have previously. And I think I value the in person human contact that you can have with people more and it made me realize that those connections are really, really important for success and for maintaining wellness and all those kinds of things.

Sloane Larsen 9:34

Yeah, yeah. Um, is there anything that you've experienced, that you feel might be important to talk about or address or any general, like, ideas that you've been really thinking about during this time?

Parker Beverly 9:49

That's a really tough question. Um, I don't know if there's necessarily anything really special when I've been thinking about I think just the the ways in which the world has changed during this time is very, very interesting to see and seeing how different communities and different even businesses and organizations have adopted has been very interesting and and seeing how they're rebounding after the nation is starting to open up again, has been fun to watch.

Sloane Larsen 10:29

And kind of talking about the country kind of opening back up and everything continuing back to normal. How do you think, so you're from Florida? How is how is Florida kind of approaching the situation? And do you think that it might be really different from other parts of the country and why?

Parker Beverly 10:48

I think Florida might be different from other parts of the country. In terms of its reopening status. I think we might be ahead of some other states, but I think we're well limited. With some other ones as well, but a lot of restaurants are opened up, but they're not open to full capacity. Of course, beaches are opened up, but of course with social distancing, and those kinds of things, so a lot of life has returned to normal. My dad, he's still working from home. So certain

companies are still working from home. But other than that, I think Florida has really come back and in a great way.

Sloane Larsen 11:27

Awesome. That's good to hear. Um, I think that's about it. For that I have, if there's anything else you'd like to add, of course, you're welcome to, if not, I feel like that's a good like. Thank you.

Parker Beverly 11:45

Thank you. Thank you so much. I appreciate it.

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