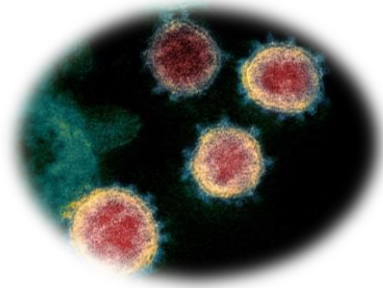


## Theological Musings from Dave's Laptop

October 27, 2020

Look at this photo for a moment and try to discern what it is.

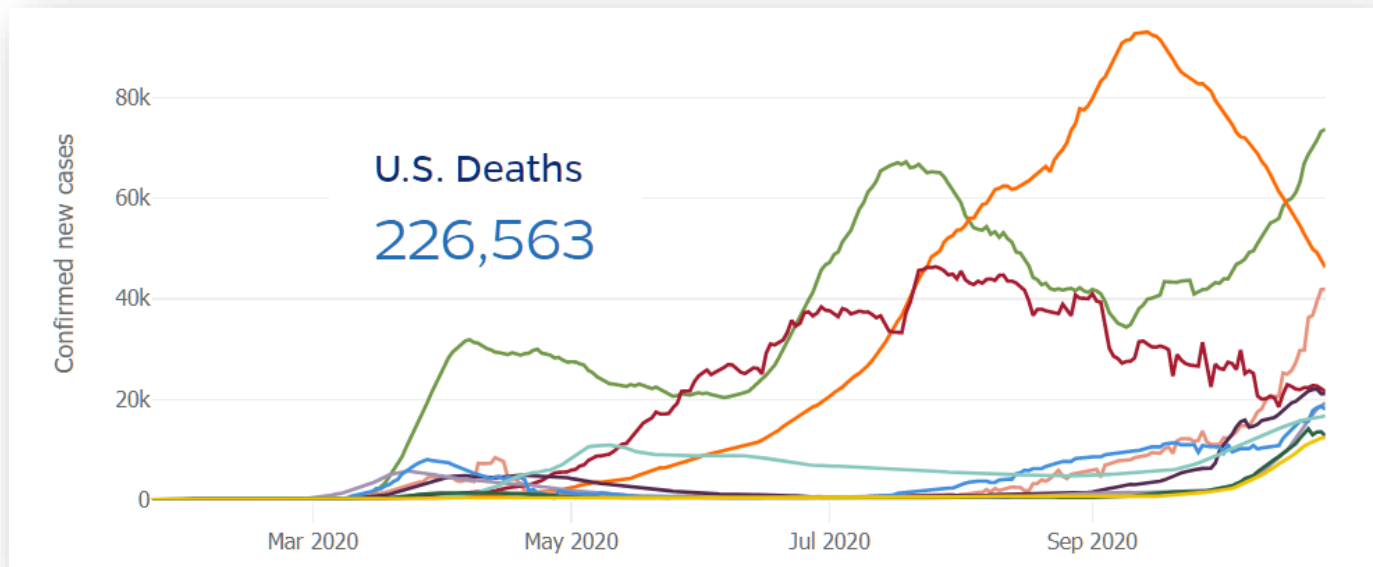
Here's a clue:



Those are newly-dug COVID graves in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

On the Johns Hopkins graph below, the orange line is India. The green line is the U.S. And the burgundy line is Brazil. The other country currently experiencing rapid increases is France.

As of today, the U.S. has far more new cases per day than any other country in the world, and that increase is not primarily the result of increased testing.



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As we head into what promises to be a difficult winter, both politically and medically, perhaps such charts can motivate us to “get our affairs in order,” so that we’re ready for whatever may come. It’s pretty easy for many of us to pretend that we’re going to live forever (which we will, of course, though not in our current form) and to neglect the effort required to leave things in good shape for those who will survive our passing, whether soon or late.

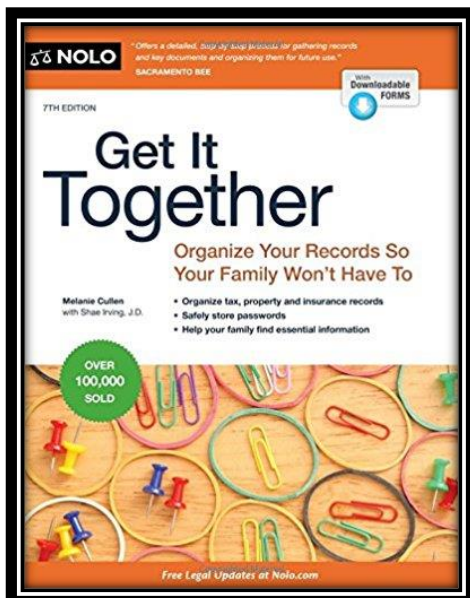
I’ve been reminded of this most recently by an article in last week’s *Economist*,<sup>1</sup> and by the discovery of a phone app called *We Croak*. Just in case we need reminding, *We Croak* will send random reminders of mortality five times a day. Isn’t that happy (jk)?



I’ve suggested this before, but it seems like a good time to mention it again. There are many ways in which such “get my affairs in order” documents might be compiled. In recent years, I’ve found it useful to follow the outline provided in a resource published by [www.nolo.com](http://www.nolo.com): *Get It Together: Organize Your Records So Your Family Won’t Have To*. Complete with downloadable forms, this book is a great help in organizing essential records.

The first time through takes a long time and lots of persistence. But I can tell you that it’s a good feeling when it’s done. Don’t put it off. You’ll sleep better when this is done . . . and so will those who love you.

Dave

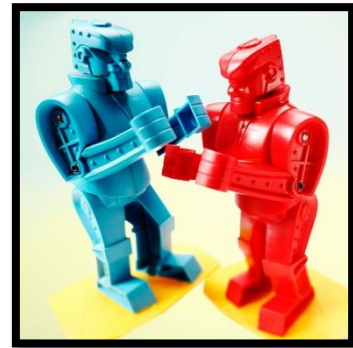


P.S. On the next page you’ll find the outline of *Get It Together* and also a Bible verse for election week . . . .

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.economist.com/international/2020/10/10/covid-19-is-helping-wealthy-countries-talk-about-death>

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He who says he is in the light  
and hates his brother, is in  
the darkness even until now.  
He who loves his brother  
remains in the light,  
and there is no occasion  
for stumbling in him.

1 John 2:9-10

[talktotheword.com](http://talktotheword.com)

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