

March 20, 2020 Coronavirus and Church Plans: Sunday Update

This Sunday will be unlike any I can remember. I won't be gathering with my church, and it won't be because of sickness or weather or travel. I'll just be sitting at home, wishing that I was with you all.

Please don't miss the lessons that God wants to teach us through this time. One of those, I believe, is that it is a glorious experience when the church gathers. It is a gathering unlike any other gathering. Hundreds of people come together to encourage one another, listen intently to needs, care for each other's families, sit under the authority of God's Word, sing with all of their hearts, and pray to God together with one voice. The gathered church is glorious, a taste of heaven!

And here's another important truth: no amount of livestreaming or video watching or phone calling or Facetiming or emailing or texting can replace this or even come close to measuring up to this. Therefore, may God use these weeks away to grow in us a strong, genuine thirst for the gathered church. And may we understand even more clearly God's command to "consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Having said all of that, I'm excited to be able to share some resources with you that I hope will facilitate your personal worship or worship with a few others this Sunday.

- Worship Guide: We hope <u>this guide</u> will help you think through various aspects of your worship with God and equip you to listen, pray, sing, and meditate on His Word.
- Sermon: The sermon that Pastor Conley chose for this Sunday is <u>Heaven: Heart for Home</u>, a sermon that was preached on August 20, 2017, during a sermon series on Heaven. We hope that these words preached several years ago will encourage you in the present time.
- Video Update: If you haven't seen Pastor Conley's video update that was posted on our website this morning, I would encourage you to go view it here.
- Online Giving "How To": If you have never given online before and are wondering how, we made a short, "how to" video on giving one-time gifts online that is available here.

Please know that we're praying for you. We're praying that God sustains your faith, peace, and hope during these days. If you have any needs that come up, please do not hesitate to contact us. Your church family is here for you.

With love,

Ben Fetterolf
Pastor for Administration

March 20, 2020