

Dear CFBC Family,

March 18, 2020

We pray that you are well and continuing to trust in the love and power of our sovereign God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We thank each of you for your prayers on our behalf during this time of global crisis. We want to lead you in a manner appropriate to God's word and His care for you. Since our last update, all levels of government have altered their recommendations for public gatherings. Federal, State, and Local agencies along with the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention are recommending no gatherings larger than 10 individuals. And while the County of Los Angeles is currently "prohibiting" gatherings larger than 50, we believe it is now wise for us to suspend our Sunday services and our weekly Lighthouses for a minimum of two weeks.

This decision is not made easily. We hold fast to the admonition to gather regularly for corporate worship, and we would never cease to gather if we believed the government was targeting us because of our faith in Christ. But this is not the case. According to the Bible, the State is a "servant of God" (Romans 13:1-7), responsible for protecting its citizens. Considering this serious health crisis, we believe it is right and wise to submit to the government's recommendations for now (Proverbs 22:3 & Matthew 22:39).

With that said, we are still a church even though we won't be gathering for a while in our normal fashion. Our practice of social distancing doesn't mean that we are no longer a community of faith. The distance between us for this season will not reduce our love for each other, which is fueled by our love for God. And as we care for each other, please remember to continue to give to the church as the Lord provides. We are recommending that we do everything within the appropriate limits to stay as connected as possible. To that end, here are a few suggestions:

- Tune in to our YouTube Channel on Sunday at 11:00am. We will be livestreaming a sermon each week. To access our channel, type in You Tube in your search engine, when You Tube comes up type in Community of Faith Bible Church. That will take you to our channel.
- Listen in on our Pastors' mid-week podcasts on Soundcloud.com or iTunes. Type in Community of Faith Bible Church. Each week we'll be studying the Bible and addressing current issues.
- Check in on one another periodically. Use your phones and computers to reach out in care and concern. The means of grace, like prayer and Scripture reading, aren't limited to personal contact.
- If you need essentials, or are aware of a church member who does, especially our seniors, please let us know by contacting the church office at 1-562-529-2025. If you can assist one of our members in need, please call the office. We want to continue to practice love for one another in tangible ways (1 John 3:16-18).

Overall, let us strive to love one another well. Let's be good stewards of the gospel of grace and hold out to this world the hope of the Lord Jesus.

We will continue to provide you with updates as the information changes. Your Elders are here for you. Please don't hesitate to call us.

Yours in Christ,

CFBC Elders