



STUDENT MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

Parents and Students,

It's apparent we are living in an unprecedented time in modern history. Life, as we know it, has radically changed into a new "normal" no one has ever witnessed. As we continue to watch our government and medical officials make recommendations, which literally change moment by moment, I wanted to let you know how we are handling activities and events for TBC Student Ministry moving forward.

We are going to stop all activities for TBC Student Ministry until further notice. We will continue to evaluate the situation regarding COVID-19 and will communicate our plan to reopen based on recommendations from our governing officials. This closure includes our DNOW Weekend which is postponed indefinitely.

This decision does not come lightly, but in an effort to "love our neighbors as ourselves" it is the wise choice to temporarily forsake gathering in person to help suppress the spread of COVID-19. The movement of this virus is impossible to track, literally invisible to our eyes, so while we may feel well or think the risk is low, we have an amazing opportunity to proclaim to our neighbors that we value them deeply the way God does.

It is painful to lose the ability to gather in person and share God's Word together, to share our experiences, to even share food together, but I believe our willingness to temporarily sacrifice these things that we love is a powerful witness to the world. Christians are agents of reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:18) and called to reflect God's redemptive purpose to the world. Redemption requires creative action to restore what is broken through sacrifice, which is exactly what the gospel is all about.

Therefore, we will be creative and seek ways to provide resources via our social media outlets and on our website to continue the work of encouraging and equipping you (both our students and our parents) with the good news of the gospel. It is my hope that we would leverage this time of social distancing by redeeming it for the good of our own relationship with Jesus and by drawing others to the goodness of salvation they can find in Christ. My prayer is that whenever the restriction on gatherings is lifted we would step into a world where our love for Jesus is stronger, our love for our neighbors is more evident, and Jesus is made more glorious because we value him more than the things of this world.

Let us not lose sight of the historical moment in which we are living. This too shall pass, but when it does how will we be remembered? May the world remember the church as people who cared for and protected the vulnerable at the cost of our own comfort and desires. May the church be remembered as people who prepared well but did not panic. May the church be remembered for providing hope in the midst of uncertainty, chaos, and confusion. May the church be remembered not because we were strong, but because we have an infinitely strong Savior who is the same today, yesterday, and forever.

A day is coming when we will gather together in person again. I look forward to that day. A day is coming when we will hear people say they surrendered their life to Jesus during the COVID-19 pandemic. I look forward to that day. Best of all, a day is coming when Christ will redeem all of creation, when Christ will restore everything, and when he does there will be no more sickness and no more pain because we will be with Jesus. That is the day I look forward to the most.

In Christ,

Kyle Cox

Student Ministry Pastor | Triad Baptist Church