

**If there are any needs we can help with, please us.
Someone from our ministry staff will gladly assist you.**

March 21, 2020

Dear Saints,

I'm reminded of a wonderful passage in J.I. Packers famous book *Knowing God*: "Two facts about the triune Jehovah are assumed, if not actually stated, in every biblical passage. The first is that he is king – absolute monarch of the universe, ordering all its affairs, working out his will in all that happens within it. The second fact is that he speaks – uttering words that express his will in order to cause it to be done".

These two facts are pillars of permanent stability under our feet these days. How precious it is that we know beyond a shadow of a doubt that every aspect of this situation was ordained from before the foundation of the world. The King of Heaven is reigning supreme, and his Word speaks to us every day.

The purpose of this update is to inform you that, in light of [the executive order issued by our Governor](#), we are suspending our regular meetings, regardless of size, until order is lifted. This is in an effort to honor the Lord by submitting the authorities he has placed over us.

Also, in light of greater state intervention than most of us have ever known, I feel compelled to address the issue of submission to government during the sermon on Sunday morning. The Word of God will help us understand the gift of civil government. We should be thankful to live in this country, and that we have been called to submit to this government, as imperfect as it may be.

Therefore, we will jump ahead and cover Romans 13:1-7 over the next 2-3 weeks. This portion of God's Word will help inform our thinking and our actions, resulting in God's own glory, and our highest good. I was reminded again this morning in my reading that "The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Yahweh; he turns it wherever he will" and that truth has never faltered.

"Oh, for grace to walk this day without a single stumble! It is not enough that we do not actually fall; our cry should be that we may not make the smallest slip with our feet, but may at the last adore *Him who is able to keep us from stumbling*" – Charles Spurgeon, *Faith's Check Book*, March 21 (page 89).

In Christ,
Jon

Older updates are listed below

March 17, 2020

Dear Tri-City Bible Church,

Grace and peace in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with an important update from SD County Health. As a result of the new requirements, we will not be gathering together on campus for the next three consecutive Sundays, unless the restrictions are lifted.

As soon as we know more, we'll reach out with another update. Things are changing quickly. In the meantime, if you have any questions or specific needs, please reach out to us. The office is open and the staff is here to serve you.

Blessings,
Jon

March 13, 2020

Dear Tri-City Bible Church,

Greetings in the name of our Sovereign Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I trust you're filled with joy, hope, and peace, even in the midst of all the news surrounding the Covid-19 Coronavirus pandemic. These are sobering times, but also a wonderful opportunity for us to show our confidence in the goodness and grace of God.

I'm writing you with an update on how we intend to respond to the current situation, and to outline the plan moving forward. The Elders have spent several hours this week seeking wisdom on how to best love the Lord and our neighbors when it comes to corporate gatherings.

The decision has been made to move our services exclusively to online streaming this Sunday. We will take this a week at a time, but in all likelihood, it will be several weeks before we gather again corporately in our building. In light of orders from the San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, and our desire to help limit potential spread of the virus to the vulnerable, we determined this to be the wisest and most loving course of action.

Beloved, please remember this is not a decision motivated by fear, but love and wisdom. We believe this will demonstrate our desire to be good citizens and neighbors. Though some might be gripped by panic, this is a wonderful opportunity to show the world that we are not afraid, and that even in the worst-case scenario, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Here is some important information for you to know:

1. Beginning this Sunday, the regular weekly preaching will be available on our Vimeo channel. You can access it here.

2. All Sunday School classes, Bible Studies, Spanish, AWANA, Children's, and regular Youth events are cancelled for this week. No events of any kind will be happening on campus. However, our staff will still be in the office during the week, and available to serve you as usual. We will not be closing our office unless the situation absolutely demands it.

3. I've been advised that the vast majority of our church's giving is done through physical checks and cash that are placed in offering bags each Sunday. We rely on your consistent and generous support. If you are one who normally gives by check, please use the postal service, or consider giving through our secure platform online. You can access it [here](#) by logging into your CCB account and clicking on GIVE in the list on the left. If you need more information on how to do this, please email our treasurer (Julius.Pallag@tcbible.com) or the Board Chairman (John.Kooker@tcbible.com).

4. We will regularly communicate with you over several different platforms during the next few weeks. If you don't already receive the weekly newsletter, please sign up for it [here](#), and if you do not have a CCB account, please request one, or ask any other questions at elders@tcbible.com.

Brothers and sisters, thank you again for your help and understanding in these matters. As you can imagine, this decision was not easy, but it does seem best at this time. There is much more that could be said, but I wanted to get this notice out as soon as possible to keep you informed.

Grace and Peace,
Jonathan Rourke

"Fear not, I am with thee; oh be not dismayed
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand"

- Martin Luther, How Firm A Foundation -