

March 15, 2020

Family and friends,

I pray this letter finds you well. Today was bittersweet. In addition to a great time in worship, two women made a public declaration of their faith through baptism, and six people completed our Next Steps classes in joining the family of The Way of Life Church! At the same time, today was our last corporate gathering until further notice. All campus programming, including our men and women meetings, are **suspended** until we come to a place of reasonable safety to resume. I will communicate the time and means we will come together online for weekly prayer and preaching later this week.

It is important that we keep perspective during this pandemic. In the coming days, we will be inundated with reports of infection and death. Our economy will be impacted. Some of us may get sick. However, we fundamentally understand that we are the children of the Most High God by our faith in Jesus Christ. We are indwelt with the Spirit of God, citizens of the Kingdom of God, and promised an eternity in the physical presence of God. We are not the agents of fear or ridicule, but ambassadors of hope.

While our traditional programs are suspended, this is not a time in which we suspend our faith. This is a time we extend it! It is a time we walk closer with the Lord. It is a time we work on our relationships with our spouses and children. For those of you in one-one discipleship relationships, continue them on the phone and via video conferencing. Look out for the needs of your neighbors and coworkers, while communicating your own needs to us. If you have eight packages of toilet paper, consider sharing one with a family larger than your own (kinda joking). Pray with the people you stand in the grocery line with. You may not be able to tell them where they can find hand sanitizer, but you can tell them about the sin sanitizer, Jesus Christ!

I want you to know that I love you all and to be encouraged. We will not only get through this storm, but we will know Him better when we come to the other side!

In His love,

**Chris Clemons**

Pastor of The Way of Life Church