



DMin 298

Pastoring in Times of Crisis

3. Practical ways to be the church during times of crisis.



- Church Scattered
- Functional Church



- History



- Broadcast, Virtual, & Online Churches



- Connections with Community



- What is New Normal?

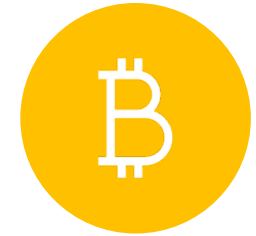
A deeper understanding of key issues that pastors face in times of crisis. Use the data from the brief online survey.



***THEOLOGICAL
ISSUES:***



***TECHNICAL
ISSUES:***



***FINANCIAL
ISSUES:***



UNITY ISSUES:



***COMMUNITY
ISSUES:***



OPPORTUNITIES:

How the Early
Church
Handled 2
Devastating
Epidemics ...
and doubled
in size!
joelnews.org

165AD (smallpox?) & 251AD
(measles?)

Cyprian: “How suitable, how necessary it is that this pestilence, which seems horrible and deadly, searches out the justice of each and everyone and examines the minds of the human race; whether the well care for the sick, whether relatives dutifully love their kinsmen as they should, whether masters show compassion for their ailing slaves, whether physicians do not desert the afflicted.”

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Dionysius: “Most of our brother Christians showed unbounded love and loyalty, never sparing themselves and thinking only of one another. Heedless of danger, they took charge of the sick, attending to their every need and ministering to them in Christ, and with them departed this life serenely happy. The best of our brothers lost their lives in this manner, a number of presbyters, deacons, and laymen winning high commendation so that death in this form, the result of great piety and strong faith, seems in every way the equal of martyrdom.”

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Rodney Stark's conclusion: "the two epidemics and the Christian response to this crisis, doubled the number of Christians in the Roman Empire. By the year 300 AD, Christians made up 10.9% of the population and in the year 350 AD 56.5%. "

The Church & The 1918-1920 Flu Pandemic



“Calvary did mail sermons, Bible readings and prayer materials to members. The Pittsburgh Council of Churches asked families to use the 11 a.m. hour on Sundays for “devotions, Bible reading and prayer” at home” (Smith, 2020).

The Church & The 1918-1920 Flu Pandemic

“Though churches suspended their large assemblies, they did not cease to worship. Rather, ...
“We worshipped God from house to house.” H. E. Winkler, of Adairville, Ky., and his wife “worshipped in our home” for three weeks. Kurfees recommended his congregants worship in their homes “as was sometimes done in the days of the apostles”” (Hicks, 2020).



The Church & The 1918-1920 Flu Pandemic



“J. D. Northcut, an evangelist ... fell ill with “influenza followed by pneumonia” and died at the age of 43. He had given “almost continual attention to sufferers near him”” (Hicks, 2020).

The Church & The 1918-1920 Flu Pandemic

““Carefully observing [government] restrictions, we feel free to meet a few brethren in a private home and worship according to the New Testament teaching.” In this way, “the assembly thus formed is not unlawful, and the worship rendered is lawful to God,” which demonstrates “loyalty to both.”” (Hicks, 2020).





“A very unusual opportunity has come to Calvary Church,” the clergy of the Episcopal congregation in Shadyside wrote to its members. “To meet the present emergency of our pandemic-stricken community, the Vestry (governing board) has tendered the use of the Parish House to the United States Military authorities. The rooms will be used as a convalescent hospital” for military trainees recovering from influenza.

Examples from *The Washington Times* (Oct 1918)

Outdoor Services.

All services scheduled for Washington churches today will be held outdoors. With the closing of churches by the Commissioners the pastors of the city have arranged for outdoor services. A majority of them have arranged for lawn services. Special care will be taken to see that the people are seated a good distance apart and that there is no danger of the spread of influenza. All services will last an hour or less.

All public funeral services are to be discouraged, according to Health Officer Fowler.

Funeral services in churches will not be held. Dr. Fowler stated that he was opposed to any service in churches, and funerals were no exception in this case.

All Meetings Barred.

All outdoor public gatherings must be discontinued in the District. A formal order to this effect will be issued late today by Commissioner Brownlow.

"This order includes all indoor and outdoor services in churches," Commissioner Brownlow said. "No funerals or weddings will be permitted in churches, and no outdoor gatherings will be allowed. This means the discontinuance of all Liberty loan meetings. Therefore, I ask the people of Washington to buy more bonds. Don't let this epidemic lesson our bond sales."

CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF KELOWNA

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that, in order to prevent the spread of Spanish Influenza, all Schools, public and private, Churches, Theatres, Moving Picture Halls, Pool Rooms and other places of amusement, and Lodge meetings, are to be closed until further notice.

All public gatherings consisting of ten or more are prohibited.

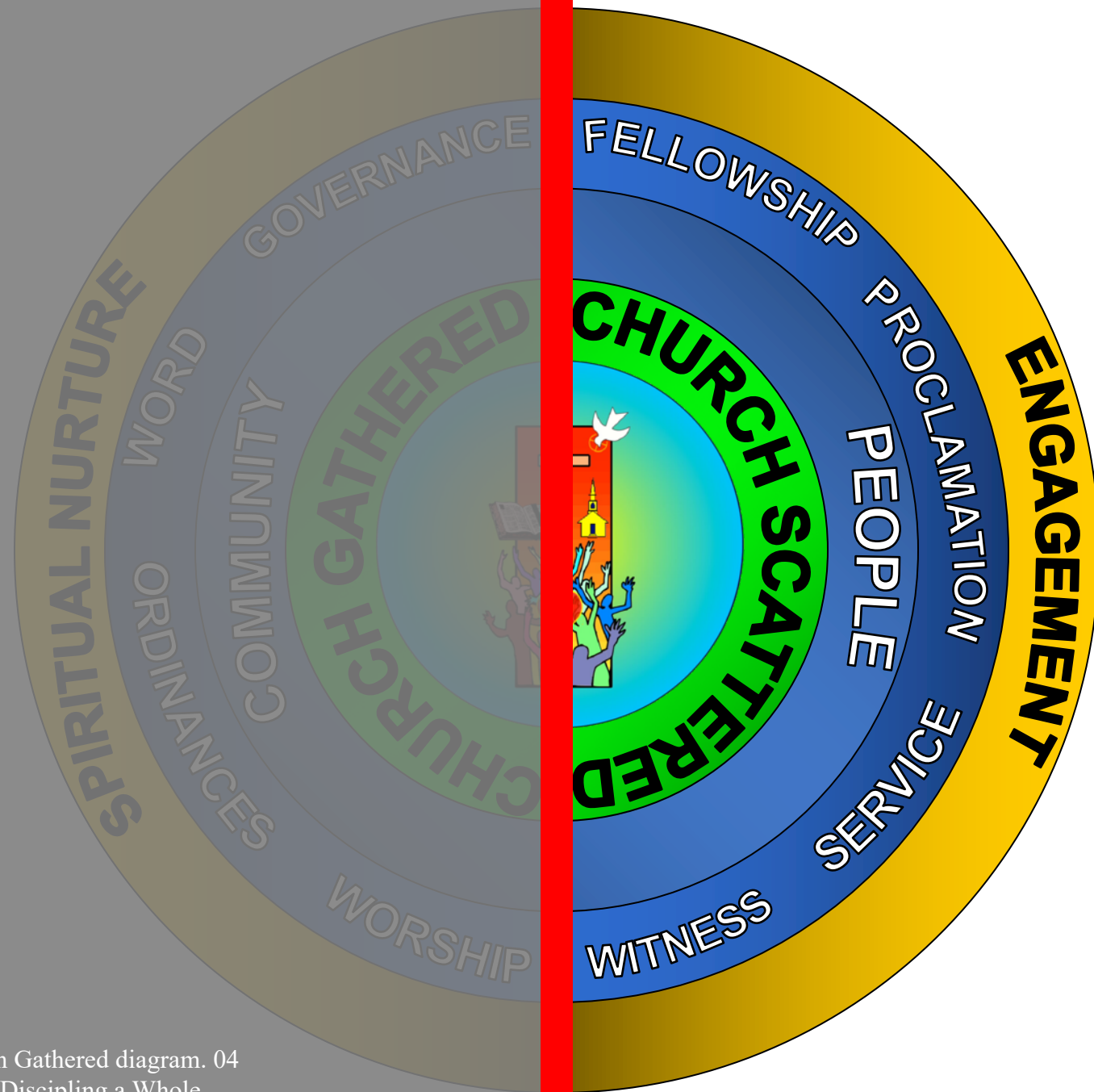
Example from Canada

Kelowna, B.C.,

D. W. SUTHERLAND,

Mayor.

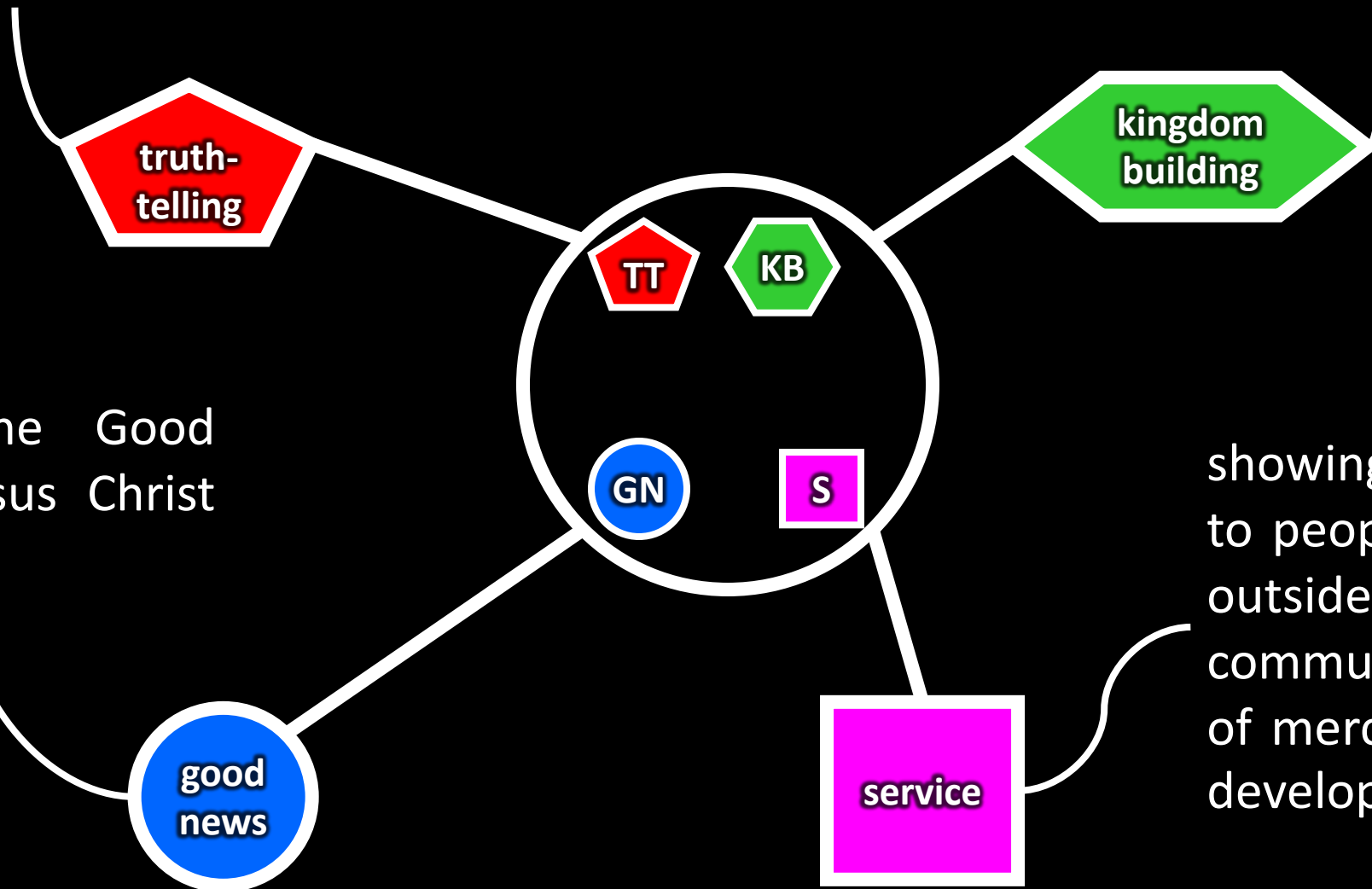
19th October 1918



Functional Church Video

being God's prophetic voice
by engaging society with
biblical truth

revealing the joys of the kingdom
of God to people outside of our
faith community



declaring the Good
News of Jesus Christ
to all people

showing the love of God
to people both inside &
outside of our faith
community through acts
of mercy, relief rehab &
development

35 ways to love your
neighbors right now
by Michael Frost

- **Pray**
- **Encourage People**
- **Give to Others**
- **Serve Others**
- **Socialize**



***PREPARING Your
CHURCH for
Coronavirus (COVID-
19): A Step-by-Step,
Research-Informed
& Faith-Based
Planning Manual*** by
Jamie Aten & Kent
Annan (HDI)

STEP 1

Get Organized



STEP 2

Create a Health Team



STEP 3

Develop a Communications Strategy



STEP 4

Focus on Church & Community Outreach



STEP 5

**Strengthen Preparedness Through
Collaboration**



STEP 6

**Stay Informed, Consider Modifying
Practices, & Adapt Services if Needed**

What is an (Online, Virtual, Broadcast, Local) Church? Some Helpful Distinctions
by John Dyer

Broadcast – a service or elements of a service delivered primarily through a 1-way medium.

Online – church services that use 2-way interactive mediums & smaller group gatherings during the week.

Churches

Virtual – a service or community that meets in a fully virtual environment.

Local – a regular assembly of Christians centered around a geographic location.



Learning Task #2

2. Document what your church is doing during the ECQ for COVID-19. Be specific.
 - Discuss what has been harder.
 - Discuss what has been easier.
 - Discuss things that you stopped doing that were regular before.
 - Discuss what new things you have done that haven't been done before.
 - Think about how the your COVID-19 experience will impact your church in the future.

Output: 5 pages.

Breakout Rooms (4/group) [20 minutes]

- Pakilala
- What challenges has your church faced during this time of ECQ/GCQ?
- What are you doing to meet these challenges?

Some Learning Tasks

- Daily Journal (5 pages total)
- 10 Vlogs
 - preDMin students: 10 minutes each
 - MMin/DiplMin students: 5 minutes each

