

Pivoting

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Ten weeks into quarantine and we are beginning to see signs of re-entry for various sectors of our society sparking joy in some and fear in others.

The question that remains on the minds of many of us is this: *when is the church going to get back together?*

Whether churches are in Phase 2 or 3 of the government's opening plan, we can all agree that it will not be business-as-usual. But what will that mean for us?

Just like we pivoted to virtual community gatherings when the quarantine began, we'd be required to pivot yet again to a "new normal" when it ends. As individuals and families, I believe that we ought to give some consideration to how we see ourselves functioning in this "new normal" reality, making informed decisions for ourselves and our families.

As Christians, this presents an opportunity for us to reflect on how quarantine has deepened our commitment to lives that truly honour God and demonstrate that we are his ambassadors.

When I emerge from this quarantine, I'm hoping that my life reflects one that shows:

1. **God-dependency** - This pandemic has stripped us all of things that we held close to our hearts and that we may have believed were accomplished in our own strength. I pray that this pandemic also strips me of my self-sufficiency as I acknowledge my need for God in every area of my life.
2. **Gratitude** - For many of us, we've assumed that all the things we enjoy would always be available and accessible to us, taking so much for granted. I pray that my new normal reflects a life that is grateful for all the blessings I enjoy, even the simplest ones.
3. **Growth** - It's easy to **go** through life running on autopilot. I pray that I will come out of this pandemic determined to **grow** through life as I learn from my experiences and fully apply myself



to the mission for which I was created.

Finally, I hope to quit "**doing**" church and instead move to "**being**" the church.

Recently I saw a poster that said, "*The church has left the building*" and it caused me to think about how, generally speaking, we may have been too focused on looking inwardly. Perhaps this is a time for us to focus more of our resources on the needs of the world around us and away from the comforts of church buildings.

I continue to reflect on the question that Bishop Cliff asked of us to contemplate during this pandemic: "*What is God allowing to die?*"

I may have said in a previous post that when I get on the other side of this pandemic, I hope to be changed for the better – to someone who is more on fire for God, intentionally serving Him first and then to intentionally serve others.

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