

One Day At A Time

Matthew 6:34

Introduction

A. **There's a whole lot we don't know about COVID-19, but this much we do know.**

1. The first known transmission from animal to human occurred in December of 2019.
2. Within two weeks, the virus mutated to human-to-human transmission.
3. None of us have antibodies against the virus, because it's never infected humans before.
4. And, life is probably going to get more difficult before it gets better.

T.S. – That's why I'm finding it easier and easier to live "One Day At A Time." Matt 6:34

I. Don't Worry About Tomorrow

A. **There are a million unknowns about tomorrow.**

1. Will we catch the coronavirus, and if so, will it be mild or severe? Family?
Friends?
2. What about your business? Job? School?
3. How bad are things going to get?

B. **I was reading a blog titled, "8 Ways To Lead in the New Digital Default Church."**

1. And, point #1 is: "Make Decisions for Today, Not for Forever."
 - a. "Here's the truth: you and I have zero idea **what** the new normal is, and have zero idea **when** the new normal will start."
 - b. "So, don't worry about what's going to happen on the other side."
 - c. "What [we] need to do is make the best decision(s) for now, not forever."
2. I think that's good advice for all of us.
v34a - . . . do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself.
 - b. Instead, make the best decisions you can for today.

II. Take It One Day At A Time

A. **Today is the very first time I've preached an online sermon.**

1. And, this is the first time Hillcrest has met as a totally online congregation.
2. So, these "firsts" naturally raise some questions?

B. **Why have we changed the way we meet? Fear? Disinterest? Government Pressure?**

1. I was privileged to attend the Shepherds' emergency meeting this past Tuesday, where I saw each Shepherd express their opinions and ideas with conviction and power.
 - a. Fear or disinterest are definitely not the reason for this change.
2. The reason for going to an online assembly is twofold.
 - a. First is a concern for the welfare of our most susceptible church members.

- I) It's healthy for Christians of all ages to look forward to heaven.
Philippians 1:21 - . . . *to live is Christ and to die is gain.*
 - II) But, neither you nor I want to be that person who brings a virus into the assembly that ends up taking the life of one of our members.
- b. Second is a commitment to being responsible citizens of our community.
 - I) Just hours before the Shepherds' emergency meeting, Cooke County Judge Jason Brinkley issued an Emergency Health Declaration.
 - II) And, in that declaration, he ordered the cancellation of public or social events attended by 50 or more people (Item 2).

C. It is Scriptural to change the way we meet?

- 1. Some probably say, "No." **Hebrews 10:25a** - *Let us not give up* (forsake, neglect, avoid - *ejgkataleivponteV*) *meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing.*
 - a. The idea behind "forsaking" the assembly is abandoning the church family.
 - b. No one here, especially the Shepherds, wants to abandon worshipping together.
- 2. The Shepherds decided that "Yes," it is Scriptural to change the way we meet. **Titus 3:1** - *Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good* (also Rom 13:1-7; 1 Pet 2:13-17; Matt 22:19-21).
 - a. So, we reserve the right to exercise the separation of Church and State.
 - b. But, to the degree we can, we are committed to submitting to civil

authorities.

D. How long will this change last?

- 1. That's a really good question, because as I was writing this (Thursday), Texas Governor Greg Abbott issued an executive order lasting 2 weeks that limits gatherings to no more than 10 people, and Gainesville Mayor Jim Goldsworthy issued a disaster declaration encouraging everyone to abide by the governor's executive order.

E. What do we do now?

- 1. You've already taken the first step by joining this online service.
 - a. You can also listen to previous sermons on KGAF 92.3 at 10am Sundays.
- 2. Have family devotionals. A copy of this lesson will be on the website.
 - a. And, you can find devotionals at YouVersion, Bible Study Tools, & others.
- 3. Remember to give. Hillcrest has obligations that don't stop just because we're not meeting at the building. And, costs increase as we seek to help people in need.
 - a. You can give online, mail a check, or drop a check off at the church office.
- 4. Be the church. Find ways to Love God, Love People, and Make Disciples.
 - a. Check on vulnerable family members, church members, and neighbors.
 - b. Run errands for people who can't or shouldn't get out.
 - c. Make sure the children, elderly, vulnerable in your social circle have

necessities.

d. If you can afford to stockpile food and paper products, you can afford to share.

- e. Pray.
- f. Look for other opportunities to be God's presence in people's lives.

Conclusion

Our faith in God allows us to take it One Day At A Time!

Matthew 6:34 - . . . *do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.*

1. In a time where there's more that we don't know than we do know, our saving grace is that we know our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
2. If the Hillcrest family can help you in any way, comment on this post, contact a Shepherd, contact us through the website, or call the office during regular hours.