



Tuesday, March 24th 2020

Covid-19 Update #4

Dear Church Family,

It truly is a changing environment and things change quite quickly. I appreciate that many of you will be taking the time to keep up to date with announcements made both by our State Premier Gladys Berejiklian and our Prime Minister Scott Morrison. As you watch them make their reports and press releases, I can't help but imagine how tired they must be and the extreme hours they are putting in to ensure Australia and Australians are protected the best they can from this pandemic. We must lift our leaders up in this crisis, we must pray for them and their families especially for protection and wisdom at this time.

As I write to you today, I am reminded of our 10:30am service last week. You will remember that in the lead up to the many changes that we have to implement that I had said that we have too much momentum to start going backward now, and that we would do everything necessary to see the Kingdom of Jesus advance at this time. I was so encouraged on Sunday when six people in our limited gathering responded to the altar call and said yes to Jesus. These people are now saved and walking in the grace of God's love and forgiveness because of Jesus and how His church responded in this time. This made all the effort worthwhile!

Your pastors have a busy week ahead of them as we navigate the changing tide. We will be meeting on Thursday, to pray for you and to discuss necessary changes that must take place, to see us continue to lead strong as a church, so we can continue to carry the message of hope to our city and region. Please pray for us as we decide the necessary measures we must implement. One of the realities we now must face is that we cannot host a church service at all with people in attendance due to the new changes brought in at this level of action. This saddens me that we cannot meet together for the purpose of worship, but with new challenges I believe comes new opportunities. I will endeavour to write again to you on Thursday or Friday updating you on the next steps for us.

For now though, we must remain positive and remain connected to one another. We are to pray for one another, even ring up one another and share with them as the Lord leads. Ask Holy Spirit, "who may be in need today and seek to meet that need." Can I encourage you to be creative whilst being careful please? We must be ready and prepared in season and out! Amen! We must also be prepared to look around us and meet the needs of those seeking to find hope, as the Scriptures encourage;

Gal 6:9-10 - And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. 10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

As we move forward I received an email from Ps Bill Vasilakis, the CRC National Chairman and also the Chairman of the Australian Pentecostal Minister's Fellowship, last week, encouraging all of us to come together (while in our homes) and pray. I am sorry I have not gotten this to you sooner but as you can appreciate time is not something many of us have right now. I have attached the email below so you can understand the concept and unite with us in prayer at 7pm. I believe this is one thing we can do together. I have also seen a post by Karla Pope (you can see these if you join the *Griffith NSW Christian Connection Facebook* page yourself), today by the Canberra Declaration to call a day of Prayer and Fasting this Sunday. If you are able to support this initiative I encourage you to do so. I will include the photos in this update



also. Your pastors will also discuss whether we will call a fast in the next couple of weeks as a church and what this may look like moving forward. So be sure to stay tuned to these updates.

Finally, before I attach Ps Bill's email and the photos from Facebook, I must ask you all to take a hiatus from your usual GROW Groups at this time. This means if you were planning on doing church together on Sunday's that now we cannot. Sadly it means no Youth, Young Adults and Children's programs also. While this is a sad change, we can all still approach this positively and be prepared with our families to log on together and participate in church remotely. We will be looking to bring in some creativity and also making the meetings quite short so they are manageable in your homes. Thank you for understanding. Please if we can be of help then we are only a phone call or email away. And, if you didn't receive this update by email, please email office@lifesourcechurch.org.au to be added to the email list.

You are constantly in our prayers,

Yours in the faith,

Ps Steve Rand

Senior Minister
LifeSource Church Inc.





Appendix A

Dear Fellow Pastors and Delegates

Our good friend Wayne Alcorn who leads the ACC, has launched a National Prayer Initiative that I have endorsed on behalf of the Australian Pentecostal Ministers Fellowship (APMF) which I presently chair.

Talking to Wayne a couple of days ago I felt our CRC movement would enthusiastically embrace this initiative....Its an easily remembered and practically oriented approach that's geared around the number 19.

I'm sure you have already addressed with your people the priority of prayer at this time

...I encourage you to also join in this spiritual endeavour to combat COVID 19

...It would be such a good thing if we all can lead our people to follow this simple strategy.

"From today the 19th March we encourage all Christian's to pray for 19 minutes every day at 1900 hrs until this scourge is overcome."

Let's pray:

1. That in this time of personal terror where fear & anxiety abound, multitudes of people will call out to God and find salvation through Jesus.
2. That our good God will have mercy on our world by providing a lasting vaccine, much sooner than it normally takes.
3. That all Aussies will follow our Prime Minister's & State/Territory premiers directives, as they are heeding the advice of our expert health officials.
4. That Jesus presence & power will protect, comfort and heal those vulnerable elderly that are most susceptible to this virus.
5. That our medical, nursing and hospital fraternities will be greatly strengthened by God at this unbelievably busy stressful time for them.
6. That all our fellow Christ followers in our Churches will grow in their faith & be ready to help people both spiritually & practically who are shaken to their core by this pandemic.
7. That in spite of the seeming limitations we are facing as Churches to our congregating together, the Holy Spirit will embolden our witness of Jesus-the only hope for our world.

Regards

Pastor Bill Vasilakis
National Chairman



Appendix B



NATIONAL CALL TO PRAYER FOR THE CORONAVIRUS THREAT

Dear K,

We invite you to join us **tonight at 8PM AEDT Thursday 19 February on a Zoom video Prayer call**. You will hear Ps Wayne Alcorn pray & share the vision for a National Combined Church Call to Prayer for the Coronavirus.

Yesterday we decided, at Kym Farnik's instigation, to support Ps Wayne Alcorn's call to prayer for the coronavirus threat. We will do this by holding a Zoom Prayer call each night at **8PM** for the next 11 nights in the lead up to the National Day of Prayer and Fasting for the Coronavirus on **Sunday 29 March 2020**.



This is the email we received from Ps Wayne Alcorn the President of the Australian Christian Churches.

"We find ourselves in an incredible time in human history. The COVID19 Virus is causing chaos in every sphere of society, with indoor gatherings in Australia now limited to 100.

Fear is gripping the hearts and minds of people everywhere and current predictions of organisations such as the W.H.O., are dire, should this pandemic not be stopped.



This is where the Church must stand in the gap! I have a conviction that it is the time for the Church of Jesus Christ in this nation to stand united in prayer until we see this pandemic

This is where the Church must stand in the gap! I have a conviction that it is the time for the Church of Jesus Christ in this nation to stand united in prayer until we see this pandemic stopped.

In the last two days, I have had wonderful conversations with Australian leaders of denominations and ministries and I have been overwhelmed by the unprecedented support and unity that has been expressed. We all agree that we should pray – regardless of our traditions – around a simple strategy which is as follows:

LAUNCHING TODAY THURSDAY 19th MARCH at 19h00 QLD Time (daily from then on)

- Pray for our nation in response to COVID19. (The 19th and 19h00 is simply an effective reminder and connection).
- Partner with intercessors all across the nation who will carry a great burden of prayer through this season.
- Support a National Day of Prayer and Fasting on Sunday 29th March.

*I would appreciate you communicating this Call To Prayer initiative to your church and your networks, and launching **today at 19:00** (no matter what time zone you are in).*

*Let's stand together on the promise of 2 Chronicles **7:14**, and pray in unity the promises of Psalm 91 (an interesting reverse of 19).*

Here are two poignant verses within Psalm 91 that our team have been declaring: 14 "Because he loves me," says the Lord, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. 15 He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honour him."



So join us **tonight** and every night for the next 11 nights as together we cry out for Gods mercy for our nation.

Tonight you will hear from Ps Wayne Alcorn President of the ACC, Commissioner James Condon the Chairman of the National Day of Prayer & Fasting and Ps Peter Walker Indigenous Elder.

Let's commit in any way possible to pray every night. If you are unable to join us on Zoom that is okay as long as you pray. There is great power in unity! The details are as follows:

EVENT: 11 Nights of Prayer for the Coronavirus
TIME: 8PM AEDT (QLD 7PM / SA 7:30PM / NT 6:30PM / WA 5PM)
DATE: Thursday 19 – Sunday 29 March 2020
ZOOM URL LINK: <https://zoom.us/j/776881184>
ZOOM MEETING ID: 776881184
ZOOM TUTORIAL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vFhAEoCF7jg>

Yours for Our Nation
Warwick Marsh & Kurt Mahlburg

