



March 21, 2020

Dear RiverLifers

We started 2020 with a call to rebuild lives. Ministry plans have since been rescheduled or postponed indefinitely. Our focus has not changed, but how we do so will.

COVID-19 is a major disruption. We had to learn about this new virus, adjust the way we live and do ministry, and set up precautionary measures.

As a church, we have been practising social responsibility. It was hard but we had to turn away worshippers including families when one member had flu symptoms. Thank you for your unwavering support as we implemented social distancing and temperature taking. We deeply appreciate your partnership and support, especially in these challenging times.

Last year, the Lord burdened my heart to speak about the urgency of us as a cell church preparing for the end times. We learned about the house church in times where worship services are no longer permissible. I asked the Lord if the time to put this into practice is here – nearer than we might be prepared for. I turned to the godly leaders that the Lord has placed in this house. We explored a plan of practical action and consulted different ones for counsel, help and ideas. While we may not have all the know-how, we all sense that it is the time to call for a shift in our paradigm and prayerfully pay attention to what God desires to do in this unprecedented time.

As communicated via whatsapp through staff and leaders, our worship services will go online on the weekends of March 21/22 and March 28/29 without the option of physical gathering. Where possible, cells are to gather offsite to join our live stream worship services. If this is not feasible this weekend, join the live stream on your own. Beyond these two weekends, we will update again.

If you are not part of a cell group, we urge you to join one so you can practise the Biblical mandate of one-anothering. I would also like to appeal for homeowners who can avail your homes for cell groups to gather for live streaming on the weekends. For both, you can email cells@riverlife.org.sg.

Even as we practise social distancing, let us remember and reach out to those who are prone to social isolation like the elderly or disabled. There are also those on SHN, LOA or HQO who could do with some cheer and help from your cell.

Some of you are coping with the economic downturn amidst other challenges. Please do not hesitate to let any of our elders, pastors or leaders know how we can pray for you and journey with you.

We are now in the season of Lent. We look forward to Easter with renewed hope to an empty tomb and risen Christ, and hopefully to reopened worship services.

May the Lord strengthen you and your loved ones in this season – Psalm 62:8

Your Senior Pastor
Ben KC Lee