



## *Monday Morning Missive*

**Good morning, dear church family. It is hard to describe how I feel this morning following such a great day of worship yesterday. We had three fantastic services that were well attended. I do apologize for the audio glitches, but I think we will have that worked out this week. All three services were well-attended, and everyone practiced safe social-distancing. I don't believe that we could have done it any better. Thank you for your patience and your cooperation as we continue to work our way towards where God will take us in His plan. As we continue this journey, I ask for your continued prayers so that we will take only the steps the Father wants us to take.**

**With that in mind, let me talk to you about**

**Sunday School and small groups. Our thoughts as a church staff and Leadership Team are that we are looking at August at the earliest before we can resume these important ministries on campus or in homes. However, both of these ministries are extremely important for the spiritual growth and unity of our church. It is through these small groups that a large part of our member-care takes place as well as our outreach. So let me encourage you to do a few things until we can get back together.**

- . Go online for your meetings. I know that not everyone has the technology to do this, but even if only half of your class can do this, it is better than nothing. We will be glad to provide you with the training and access that you need to make this happen. Just let me know.**
- . Whether you go online or not, please continue to check on each other with whatever means that you can. If you**

**discover needs, please let me know what they are. Take steps to minister to your class members as much as possible.**

- Consider small group meetings in each other's homes as you feel comfortable doing this. Practice social distancing procedures as much as possible, but think about someone you would be comfortable getting together with for a meal and some Bible study. You might even plan to watch the online Sunday School class together and discuss what is taught. Or I can send you the Small Group Discussion Questions that focus on the Sunday morning message.**

**The important thing is to begin the process of meeting safely in small groups to benefit your spiritual and emotional health.**

**Let me share one final word with you. My heart breaks for what is happening in our country. If our elected officials are not careful, we could**

**descend into a full-blown race war like we have never seen. As believers, we have an obligation to pray for God’s healing hand to rest on the hearts and minds of all those involved in this situation. But we also must stand for what is right and holy, and that means standing against the senseless murders that have sparked this violence as well as standing against the violence that rages in our streets. Two wrongs never make anything right. There is one more thing that we must do: we must love all people, and that means we must reach across racial and social barriers to promote peace and love in the relationships that we have now and those that we must develop. Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers.” That is who we must be.**

**Praying for you today,**

**Bro. Ben**

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