



**With thanks to Stephen Henderson, Pastor of the Harvest Baptist Church**

Since God has called His people to assemble together in a local place to worship Him, the circumstances of our day have brought us to an unknown place. What's the best way to "go to church" while watching a live stream broadcast?

*Daniel 6:10 "Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime."*

1. PREPARE – Great decisions are made, before great decisions have to be made!

~ Get Your Projector Ready!!!

Don't wait till the time for service to start to make sure you have the right connections. Figure out how to watch the service in your home on the biggest tv or device you have. Watching it on your tv will allow you to feel more like you are there than on your computer or phone. There are ways to connect your tv to the internet or project your computer or phone through your tv. Ask someone for help if needed. Also, make sure there is plenty of volume to help you stay focused.

~Get Your People Ready!!!

Father, be the leader! Don't just sleep in and say "We can watch it anytime today." Get your family up and ready like you would normally! It's the Lord's Day! We are going to worship the Lord, even if it is in your house. The Lord deserves our very best whether at the building with our church family or at the house with our immediate family! We know this a temporary situation, but let us continue on! Sunday, for this short time, the Lord's house is your house. Ps. 122:1 *"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD...."*

~Get Your Pew Ready!!!

We obviously have more comfortable seating in our homes than at the church. However, try to refrain from being "overly comfortable". Encourage everyone to sit up and pay attention!

~Get Your Presence Ready!!!

This Sunday, you would be in your church, right? Not the one down the street. Not the one with one of your other favorite preachers. Not the one with the much better cameras and live stream. Watch/Attend your service at your local church! There will be live streams all over the place happening this Sunday. You can watch them all later during your quarantine. Attend your church this Sunday! Let's teach our children to be faithful to their home church!

## 2. PRAY

Your pastor and church leaders are working hard to make sure the service will continue on in the sanctuary even though you are not there. This will require much planning and preparation. They need your prayers today and throughout the week.

They also need your prayers during the services as well. It will not be easy preaching and singing to empty seats. God can still move both in the church auditorium and in your home! Matt 18:20  
*"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."*

## 3. PARTICIPATE

~Withhold

Dedicate this time, holy unto the Lord. Put away anything that could distract you during this time. Phones, work, toys, animals, or whatever would be a hindrance to you or your family. These would not hinder you in the service at church, so do not allow them to hinder you at home either.

~Worship

Allow the spirit of your church service be the spirit of your service at the house! When they stand to pray, sing, or read the Scripture, stand with them! Go and kneel at the altar to pray if needed! When God speaks to your heart, respond instantly to Him!

John 4:24 *"God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."*

Psalm 95:1, 6 *"O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.... O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker."*

~Witness

We just recommended that you withhold distractions during this time, but allow me to encourage you to have one way to participate in the service online. At appropriate times, interact with the online broadcast.

Please refrain from carrying on conversations with others during this time. That could easily distract someone else. This is not the time for that.

Do say hello at the beginning of the service to let others know you are there! Click “like”, say “Amen”, or lift your hands when appropriate! This will encourage others watching and keep you engaged in the service! As a side note, it will encourage your pastor when he sees you and your interaction later!

#### 4. PROVISIONS

We all know how our economy has been affected during this time. Our churches are no different. Even though your local assembly cannot assemble, that which belongs to the Lord is still His! Our giving must continue on even though our services may not. Figure out the best way to get your tithes and offerings to the church!

Many churches have online giving but all have a physical address that you can mail it to. Whatever avenues your church has available to you, figure out what is best and give!

Remember, not only does your church depend on it, your missionaries are depending on you to give as well!

*Malachi 3:10 “Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.”*

#### 5. PASS IT ON

Most Canadians will be home this Sunday. Many will go online to watch a service somewhere. Share your church’s live feed on your various social media accounts to invite others to join you! Have a Facebook watch party or whatever you can do (email, text, word of mouth) to get people to join you!

As of late, our interaction having been limited with others has hampered our gospel witness. This is a great way to share the gospel!!!

#### 6. PERMIT

Allow the Lord to do a work in your life through the online services you will be a part of in the coming weeks. God knows what is going on and we are thankful that the gospel message can still go forth even in times like this. Ask God to speak to your heart and let Him have His way in you!

Then, share with your pastor what God did for you! Tell others how God worked in your heart during the service that day! Let’s give all the honor and glory to the Lord for what He will do in the midst of these uncertain days!