

1. What has God said you *must* do?

- a. What actions or inactions would be *sinful*?
- b. How would you defend your decisions as biblical necessary for obedience to God?

2. What is the guidance from the civil and health officials?

- a. Do they say it is legal for churches to gather?
- b. Do they say it is wise for churches to gather?
- c. Do they say it is safe for churches to gather?
- d. Do they say it is legal for secular groups to gather?
- e. Do they say it is wise for secular groups to gather?
- f. Do they say it is safe for secular groups to gather?
- g. How should their guidance for secular groups inform your decision?

3. How have you led in the past in this situation or analogous situations?

- a. What have you told the congregation you would do with respect to the rulings and/or guidance from civil and health officials?
- b. If the church is not permitted to gather: How have you counseled church members who want to defy authority?
- c. If the church is permitted to gather, but the authorities say it is unsafe (implied by disallowing secular gatherings): How have you counseled members who want to do something permitted but unwise/unsafe?

4. Are your decisions or preferences based on—

- a. Biblical and theological convictions?
- b. Ethical and moral convictions?
- c. Medical information?
- d. News stories?
- e. Social media posts?
- f. Statements from politicians?
- g. Statements from religious leaders?

5. What is your basis or process for making decisions?

- a. Presuming you are obeying God, are you following the guidance of civil and health authorities? Why or why not?
- b. Are you confident in your ability to interpret and apply relevant data?
- c. What are others doing? Have you weighed their reasons?

6. If resuming services, have you communicated your plans to local officials? Should you?

7. What is loving to your neighbors—that is, to...

- a. your family?
- b. church members?
- c. church and member neighborhood?
- d. city? state? nation? world?

8. Are your decisions (statements, actions, and inactions) biblical—that is...

- a. Displaying the glory of God?
- b. Conformed to the image of Christ?
- c. Sanctified by the Holy Spirit?
- d. Pure with respect to God's commands?
- e. Legal with respect to government regulations?
- f. Wise?
- g. Necessary?
- h. True?
- i. Honorable?
- j. Just?
- k. Respectful?
- l. Loving?
- m. Good?
- n. Commendable?
- o. Kind?
- p. Gentle?
- q. Joyful?
- r. Promoting peace?
- s. Sowing righteousness?
- t. Defensible by Scripture and plain reason?

9. What is your response plan to a positive test among those who gather?

- a. Are you willing to provide contact tracing information?
- b. What is your public relations plan should an outbreak should be traced to your church gatherings?
- c. What will you do if a proportion of attendees or ministers or volunteers end up in isolation for a time?
- d. Do you have backup teams? Do you need them?

10. What if your worship gathering is initially limited to no more than (25, 50, 100) people?

11. What adjustments will you make to the Lord's Supper, baptisms, and offering collection?

- a. Should any of these be *permanently* changed?

12. How will you go forward with BKC/VBS?

13. Is a physical, "pass the plate" offering a thing of the past?

14. What are you doing now to sanitize and sterilize your church building?

- a. What areas?
- b. Who is doing it?
- c. What disinfectants are being used?

- 15. Are you going to continue offering nursery or childcare?**
- 16. Are you going to continue hosting special events?**
 - a. Will your church continue to host weddings? How about funerals? Other?
 - b. If discontinued, for how long? What are the markers for resuming?
 - c. How will you decide -- and explain -- which ones continue and which ones don't?
- 17. Are you continuing to provide coffee and refreshments?**
 - a. If discontinued, for how long?
 - b. What are the markers for resuming?
- 18. Will you continue offering video recording the sermons?**
- 19. What is your plan when volunteers step down?**
- 20. If necessary, what is your strategy to clean and sanitize your church in real-time?**
 - a. What?
 - b. Where?
 - c. Who?
- 21. Do door greeters do their jobs differently, or at all?**
- 22. Because people may return very slowly to church, how will you connect with non-attendees?**
 - a. How do you prevent making them feel needlessly disconnected?
- 23. Should you add and/or shorten worship services to allow for social distancing?**
 - a. Offer more services
 - b. Encourage people to continue worshipping online
 - c. Remove chairs from your worship center to help people avoid close contact
 - d. Block off rows so that people no longer sit right behind someone
- 24. What are you going to do about larger Sunday School and Small Groups?**
- 25. What's your plan for service handouts?**
- 26. Will you reopen the doors of your church with a "corporate worship only" strategy?**
 - a. If so, for how long?
 - b. What are the markers for resuming other meetings?
- 27. Do you have a plan for reducing expenses if your church's offerings don't rebound?**
- 28. How will you deal with the rise of COVID-19 related addictions?**

- a. Substance abuse, porn use, and domestic abuse may be on the rise.
- b. Who will handle? Where to refer?

29. What “fellowship” time will you encourage before, after or (in the case of multiple services) between service(s)?

30. Are you going to postpone a return to mid-week Wednesday night services, meals, and Bible studies?

- a. If so, for how long? What are the markers for resuming other meetings?

31. Should you be investing in new digital equipment right now?

32. Will a new staff or volunteer position emerge from COVID-19?