



Brothers and Sisters of Calvary Spokane,

On Monday, March 23 Governor Jay Inslee signed an order for all non-essential workers in Washington to “stay-at-home” for at least two weeks starting Wednesday, March 25. Though Washingtonians may leave the home for essential activity. More information on the order can be found at www.coronavirus.wa.gov.

This order expands on the previous ban on all social gatherings of 50 or more people across the state of Washington. This ban includes, amongst other types of gatherings, large church services.

The reason for these extreme measures is due to the global pandemic health crisis of a novel coronavirus disease, also called COVID-19. The purpose of this statewide ban on large gatherings is to reduce the spread of COVID-19 to both protect those vulnerable to this disease but also to prevent the local healthcare system from becoming overwhelmed. The disease is spread through respiratory droplets (e.g. coughing and sneezing). The most effective ways to reduce the spread of infection is to practice washing hands often with soap and water, staying home when you are personally ill, covering your coughs and sneezes, and here finally social distancing – which is avoiding large groups or crowds of people where disease can spread with great ease. More information on the Coronavirus can be found at www.cdc.gov.

The mission of Calvary Spokane is...

1. To worship God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.
2. To build up the Church of Jesus Christ [Ephesians 4:11-15] through...
 - a. Reaching the unsaved by persuading them to repent and confess Jesus Christ as Lord...
 - b. Connecting the saved in Christ honoring redemptive relationships...
 - c. Equipping those who serve through the teaching of the Word of God (the Bible) and the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

As Christians, we seek to honor the government that God has placed over us, especially when the government is making God-honoring decisions to protect the public health of it's citizens (see Romans 13:1-7). The leadership team of Calvary Spokane has therefore decided to cancel on-campus Sunday and Midweek services while the ban is in effect until further notice.

In the place of these large services, we will be moving Bible teachings online for Saturday evenings @ 7pm, Sunday mornings @ 9am and 11:15am, Sunday evenings @ 7pm, Monday evenings @ 7pm, and Wednesday evenings @ 7pm. These can be viewed online through our website, app, and directly on YouTube. We will also have additional resources online in the weeks to come. Visit our website at www.calvaryspokane.com.

In an effort to further reduce the spread of COVID-19, all other on campus gatherings of equip studies, bible studies, youth groups, children's events, and other special events will be canceled as well until further notice. Additionally, the church office will be closed until further notice.

Our website will contain any updates as it pertains to the ministry of Calvary Spokane, especially regarding the reopening of services.

You may continue to give tithes and offerings to the ministry of Calvary Spokane through the mail or by giving online at www.calvaryspokane.com/give.

These measures feel severe, and many people will feel at a loss without gathering together as a large church. But we are responsible for overseeing both the spiritual health of the church and your physical health during all gatherings taking place on campus. In keeping with state law and to ensure your physical safety, this is the best route for our church right now.

This might be a wonderful opportunity for families to begin the practice of family altar. Mom and dad and kids coming together to pray, read the word, and worship. This might also be a time to share a meal with friends or neighbors, to encourage one another and learn how best to pray for the people God has put in your life.

We recognize that proper worship of God goes beyond a large gathering on Sunday mornings. As a church, we can still reach the unsaved, connect the saved, and equip those who serve in this difficult season. Keep vigilant in prayer for our community, with eyes open to show the love of Christ to your neighbors, coworkers, and friends in a time when many people are experiencing anything but the peace of Christ. We must view this moment as a grand opportunity to shine the light of Christ. We are confident the Lord has placed you precisely where you are for such a time as this!

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."

- Numbers 6:22-27, NIV

God Bless,

Pastoral Staff
Calvary Spokane