

## Returning To Church Services Post COVID-19

Many are beginning to return to the public worship gatherings of their church family. There are a lot of details that have been changed by this unpredictable time. Take time to pray through some of the suggestions and let God use you to make a positive difference in these days.

### **1. Pray for a better awareness of possible ministry opportunities.**

It could be possible that there are some ministry opportunities you haven't taken advantage of yet. Someone once told me that there wasn't anyone left in their community. I encouraged them to travel to the closest church members home and count the number of homes in between. The report was 26 homes. That exercise led to a better awareness of opportunities that had previously been dismissed.

### **2. Pray to know how to best use the church's facilities.**

One person shared that their church's baptistry had become a storage space. In this case, discouragement became the attitude of that community. Another person recently spent a few dollars on paint and vinyl wall decor to use in their church's nursery. It's amazing what a little paint will do. Another testimony included two Sunday School classes swapping rooms to accommodate the needed space. One class was growing and needed more space while the other class was maintaining a smaller class size. Both groups were blessed because of their flexibility.

### **3. Pray for those who are grieving from the darkness of COVID-19.**

Every community has someone who lost a loved one, friend, co-worker, classmate, or neighbor. Some people lost their jobs and have faced financial crisis. Many have been impacted by long-term health consequences. The church I pastor was blessed by our denomination's associational missionary teaching a multi-week class on grief. Consider hosting a group at your church to address the grief cause by COVID-19.