



# EFCC

exalting Christ in growing  
healthy churches

## Coronavirus: Advice to Churches

20 April 2020

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“O death where is your victory? O death where is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ’ 1 Corinthians 15:55-57.

On 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020, we released advice to the EFCC Churches to suspend all meetings including those on the Lord’s Day because of Government statements. We said that we would continue to advise our churches as the situation developed each month. Through all of this, as the Church of Christ, we can be confident that our Lord is sovereign, that he is good, that he is just and that he is merciful. We must pray for our Government, our nation, the world and the Church.

The UK Government is reviewing its countermeasures but has made it clear that the lockdown will continue until it can be sure that five conditions are met.

- The NHS must be protected and be able to deal with the pandemic.
- There needs to be a sustained decrease in the daily death rates from Covid-19.
- There must be reliable data showing a decrease in the rate of infection.
- There needs to be enough testing capacity to meet the need and sufficient personal protective equipment needs to be available.
- The Government needs to be sure that if the current strict countermeasures are relaxed, it will not lead to a second peak in the pandemic.

When our Government is sure that these five conditions can be met it will consider reopening schools and relaxing social distancing and other coronavirus countermeasures, including church meetings.

Please keep an eye on the regularly updated Government advice which can be found here <https://www.hse.gov.uk/news/coronavirus.htm>.

There is a growing number of resources on the EFCC website about churches and the coronavirus, including regular messages from Tom Brand, and other advice on pastoral care, online streaming for meetings, and other updates.  
<https://www.efcc.org.uk/coronavirus-advice-to-churches/>.

‘I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord”’ Psalm 122:1.  
May the Lord richly bless you and increase your love for him and for his people,

Tom Brand  
EFCC Ministry Director  
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