

## **1. Before Sunday**

### **Put it in the diary**

Or should I say *keep* it in the diary? Yes we're not actually going to the church building and you don't need to travel. But in the same way as working from home doesn't just 'happen' without you planning for it to happen (distraction free) 'Church From Home' won't happen either. The best way to keep church a priority and make an opportunity to share a greater sense of fellowship with one another is to keep Sunday morning clear for church, as ever.

### **Read the passage**

This is hopefully something we're usually in the habit of doing, but some find it harder to concentrate and follow the reading online, so this can help you be better prepared for that,

## **2. Before church on Sunday**

### **Log on around 10:50 either to our [Facebook page](#) or [YouTube channel](#)**

This gives you a chance to check that the technology is working, and that you can focus fully come 11am. If you have young children, you may choose to watch later, or you could (attempt to...) set them up with something else now. Youtube probably gives the best 'viewing experience' plus easier to watch on a Smart TV. Facebook is good for interactivity.

### **Share with your friends**

Facebook also means you can share the feed to your own page very easily, but emailing a link works too. Who knows if some of your friends might join? It's never been easier to find out!

### **Put your devices on 'Do Not Disturb'**

This means you won't be too disrupted by emails, calls, notifications etc.

### **Grab a Bible, pen or anything else you might need.**

This might include bread and wine when we are celebrating the Lord's Supper

### **Pray and prepare your hearts**

This is the most important of all! It is easy in the midst of our own home lives to not stop and prepare before God as we hear from his Word. Pray for one another, for newcomers, visitors, for all the tech too. Pray that God would speak powerfully through his word even in this 'new' medium. Pray that God might give you something to encourage others with in a message or call after church.

### **3. During online church**

#### **Do whatever it takes to maximise your concentration**

Sit down. Take notes in the sermon. If it doesn't help you concentrate, don't try to do other things at the same time.

#### **Be vocal**

This is a clear way of 'bodily' engaging with church. Say a hearty amen to the prayers. Join in any corporate liturgy. Sing loudly enough for the neighbours to hear and wonder what's going on!

#### **Engage with one another as appropriate**

If you get online early, let people know, say hello! It's always encouraging to be reminded that 'we're together' even if in this small way, but perhaps keep it quiet during the sermon :)

### **4. After online church**

#### **Join with one another on Zoom**

This is of course the main way we can engage with one another online, and the closest thing to face-to-face interaction. If you've never tried it before, it might be easier than expected. You can also join late and leave early if needed!

It's great to just to get to catch up with one another, but it's really to try and see how people really are, how you might pray for them, or knock about a sermon discussion question or simply share what most challenged or encouraged you personally. Our aim should be to *"Consider how to stir up one another to love and good works"* (Heb 10:24). Either way it can be really helpful to serve others by being quick to speak as often others are less comfortable in this format.

#### **As well as, or instead of Zoom, give some people a call.**

Do all the above, the old-fashioned way.