

LIVING HOPE MOVING FORWARD:

Discipleship During & Through COVID-19



As a church community we long to deepen our relationship in Christ. Due to social distancing restrictions we have had to rethink and reimagine what continued discipleship looks like.

THINKING LONG TERM

On Wednesday, May 6, BC Health put together resources telling organizations that we should be prepared for 12-18 months before resuming larger gatherings. This means that we will need a new structure in how we envision discipleship happening at our church to lead to flourishing in the long term. We recognize there are real challenges in the midst of this, but we also trust in a God who is able to bend all things to his good purposes.

DANCING THE THREE STEP

One of the biggest questions has to do with what gatherings will look like during this time. BC Health has released a 4 stage plan for returning to social activities. While each stage represents a loosening of the restrictions there is a caution in looking at the stages as a timeline. The more likely reality is that there will be a rhythm of tightening and loosening of restrictions throughout this time, eventually leading to the fourth step. While there are four steps or phases to our plan, our immediate focus will be on dancing the three step and learning how to thrive as followers of Christ in these circumstances.

THREE STEPS (PLUS ONE)

STEP 1 | DISCIPLESHIP AT HOME



Joining the Livestream provided by the church if possible.

Additional ministries exist in connecting through phone or video conferencing.

STEP 2 | HOUSEHOLDS JOINED IN DISCIPLESHIP



Joining the Livestream in households for gatherings of 2-6 people (or more as guidelines allow).

Additional ministries encouraged to connect on phone/video conferencing. Creative adaptations within public health guidelines.

STEP 3 | DISCIPLESHIP SYMPOSIUMS



Joining the Livestream in households for gatherings of 4-15 people. Inclusion of 20-50 people in the sanctuary with further adaptations to health guidelines in place.

More in-person connecting possible, but still limiting contact with others. Possibility of mid-week gatherings resuming.

STEP 4 | THRIVING AFTER THE COVID-19 DANCE



Full congregation invited back to sanctuary with some people still meeting at home if they have a need to continue physical distancing.

Ministries begin to transition into full and regular gatherings.

Please be in prayer for church leadership and members of the congregation as we discern together how best to be loving God and loving our neighbour (Matthew 22:36-40) in this time.

For more information on this plan and further resources – see ["Living Hope Moving Forward - Extended Version"](#)