



# GRACE BIBLE CHURCH

## DEAR GRACE BIBLE CHURCH FAMILY,

Pastor Jason here... How often in the past week have you heard the phrase, "These are unprecedented times"? There is no doubt that the COVID-19 virus has captured the attention of the world and there is great concern among many, even believers. I'm reminded of a time when Jesus told his followers, while in a crisis of their own to *Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me (John 14:1)*. As your pastor I want to continue to encourage you to set your gaze upon the one who is absolutely sovereign and trustworthy.

Max De Pree is famous for saying that the first responsibility of a leader is to define reality. I'm writing to let you know how our leadership is defining reality during this unprecedented time. We know that GBC has always been a people of hope who are prepared to follow the Lord's leading.

## GRACE BIBLE CHURCH REALITY

- We believe that our church is needed in this community now more than ever to be a beacon of light, hope and compassion on the central coast and around the world.
- We are continuing to trust our local and global health professionals and authorities meaning our 'normal' gatherings are online for this season.
- We understand the financial reality that many of you are facing and indeed this is affecting us all.
- We know that currently our giving is down by 50% and we are preparing a phased program of significant expense reduction if this trend continues.
- We have a gifted, talented and committed staff working hard together to care for you and this community to further the gospel. I am very proud of this team.

## WHAT WE ARE ASKING YOU TO DO:

### Pray Boldly

As we have been learning about bold and audacious prayers let's ask God to move through this crisis that many might come to faith in Jesus. Pray for our health professionals. Pray for local, state, and national leaders. **Sunday, April 5 is a church wide day of prayer.** Will you pray boldly and audaciously with me before the throne for God's hand to move?

### Give as you are able

Many of you are very generous but are not able to give right now because of significant hardship. We understand. So, please be generous in your prayers and time. For those of you who are able to give and those who normally give on Sundays, would you consider transitioning to giving on-line? This [tutorial video](#) will guide you or please feel welcome to contact us via email at [hello@gracebibleag.com](mailto:hello@gracebibleag.com) for assistance. The enclosed envelope is for your convenience if you would prefer to mail your giving to the church at this time. We are going to monitor our giving through Easter Sunday, April 12, and

then assume that what has come in over the previous month is what God is providing, and we will steward those resources accordingly.

**Lastly**

We are a family, and in disorienting days we must be diligent to stand firm together and have faith over fear. Know that I love and miss you, and I am so grateful for the ways I see God using you all. I am praying boldly and audaciously that we will all be together again very soon! Please check [www.gracebibleag.com](http://www.gracebibleag.com) for a video update.

Together Learning to Live and Love Like Jesus,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason". The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial 'J' and a horizontal line extending to the right.

Pastor Jason