

Update 3/16/2020

Good Evening Relevant,

We sure did miss being together with you in Ybor yesterday, but I am thankful for the online platform God provided to worship together virtually. I would love to hear how God used yesterday's message via our online platform to encourage you or teach you something new. Please share it on any of your social media platforms and tag us @relevanttampa so that we can show you some love. Encouraging words during times of stress and crisis bring hope and peace.

By now you may have heard that late yesterday the CDC offered nationwide guidance discouraging any gatherings larger than 50 and today our President asked that people not gather in groups larger than 10. As a result, we wanted to make you aware of our plan for the next 2 Sundays.

Similar to yesterday, the service will be available to stream at your home or on a mobile device. However, we also know that during times like these, the enemy wants to keep us isolated and we wanted to provide another option for those who are interested. For the next 2 Sundays, we will be offering "**RELEVANTatHOME**". What we mean by this is, although we cannot meet together at church, we can gather in small settings in multiple locations throughout our region. This is the model that the church in Acts used to expand the reach of the gospel of Jesus.

Acts 2:46-47 (NLT)

⁴⁶ *They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—* ⁴⁷ *all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.*

During times like these friends and neighbors who would never come to church may come to your home to hear a message of hope that Jesus offers. Here is what we are suggesting:

RELEVANT AT HOME:

- People willing to be a home church host. We need 50-60 homes (**Contact Tim Mann ASAP if you are willing to host**)
- Have the capacity to watch the weekend service provided on a large TV
- Gather in smaller groups to watch the service online on Sunday at 10 or 11am (10 People Max)
- Pray, fellowship, and encourage each other
- We will provide a link for service for adults and links for children's curriculum
- Invite friends/neighbors to join you in an informal setting
- Share with us any needs that you have so that we can work together to meet each others needs

Granted, we would ask any who doesn't feel well or if you are in a **"vulnerable population"** please do not attend. We realize this situation presents uncharted waters in many ways. However, it also presents an opportunity for us to continue to shine the light of Jesus in our community. We are still making final arrangements for home churches that will be available this Sunday. Keep an eye out for further instructions. We will provide a list of home churches available along with opportunities to sign-up on Tuesday or Wednesday of this week.

If you have an interest in hosting a home church in your area, please contact Tim Mann at tim@relevantchurch.com

To be up to date on current information regarding Relevant Church and our response to the crisis, please visit our website and follow our social media accounts.

www.relevantchurch.com

Instagram- @relevanttampa

Facebook- <https://www.facebook.com/relevanttampa>

The Best is Yet to Come,

Pastor Paul

Update 3/14/2020

Dear Church Family,

As additional information and guidance about COVID-19 has become available, we wanted to provide an update. While we are taking precautions, we also have great confidence in knowing that we serve an all-powerful God who is sovereign over ALL things. What a blessing and comfort to lean on these facts. God's word teaches us that we don't have to live in fear, however, it also teaches us to be wise and to respect authority. Today, the City of Tampa asked that all gatherings of 250 people or more be canceled this week. After speaking with our elders and staff we have made the following decisions.

RELEVANT CHURCH RESPONSE TO COVID-19

- **We will NOT be holding live services at our campus in Ybor tomorrow.**
- We will continue to worship together through our online campus and a link will be provided for you to view tomorrow at a time convenient for you and your family.
- We will have some of our staff at the building tomorrow from 10 -11 am. If you feel like you need prayer or are anxious about this whole situation; we are here for you. Tomorrow has been deemed a National Day of Prayer by our President, so I would encourage each of us to spend some quality time in prayer.
- As of right now, all of our small groups will continue as planned throughout the week.
- We will continue to update you with further details as they become available since this situation is very fluid.

Our desire is to protect the members of our church family and our community. We trust that these preventative measures will help as we "err on the side of caution." Ultimately, we trust God and cling to His promise that He will use all things (including this situation) for our good to those who love Him and are called according to His purpose. We will continue to provide updates via email, text, and social media.

Pastor Paul