

Back on Track BGBC

May 2020

Bible Passages

As the leadership met to plan our physical re-gathering these passages motivated and guided our decision making. Let us be humble and not demanding of our rights. May we demonstrate our trust in God by being subject to our governing authorities.

Philippians 2 *Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

Romans 13 *Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.*

Background and Introduction

Battle Ground Bible Church is a living and vital local church with a deep love for God and for God's people. The members of BGBC are dependent upon one another like the parts of a human body are dependent upon the whole or like a branch is dependent upon the vine. We need one another, and we need to gather physically.

However, this vibrant body of believers exists in a broken world infected with disease. God has blessed us with governing authorities to guide us (Romans 13). Our church has leadership established by the congregation to pray, discuss, debate, advise and shepherd.

Find here a plan to re-gather the physical body of Battle Ground Bible Church. Let us proceed in humility, deferring to one another in love (Phil 2).

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We ask that all parishioners be familiar with the guidance supplied to churches by the Indiana governor found in [Back On Track Indiana](#).

Dates

- **May 17** Services will continue to be primarily live stream one more Sunday with the addition of the families of the pastor, sound man and music team limited to 25 total people. (These families have been divided during the recent live stream Sundays.)
- **May 24** The church will be open for physical gathering under the guidelines below in the section [Back on Track BGBC](#).

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Individuals have differing opinions on the efficacy and prudence of various measures being taken. If you are uncomfortable or disagree with the measures being taken, then please enjoy the live stream services until you can be comfortable.

The following are points of consideration.

- Streaming services will continue. Parishioners at low health risk are invited to meet physically at the church. Parishioners at high health risk or sick or feeling unwell are encouraged to participate in the live stream from home.
- Sunday School will remain suspended initially.
- As many doors as can be propped open will be. Please avoid touching the handles. Wait for an usher to open the sanctuary doors during the service.
- Seating will be spread out between families. Families are to sit closely so that there can be space between family units.
- When collecting offerings, only the ushers will touch the plates.
- Communion will follow special procedures. Instructions will be given prior to sharing the elements.
- The nursery will not be staffed until further notice.
- The restrooms will be open, but people are encouraged to use them sparingly and carefully.
- Face coverings are encouraged, but expect to see people without them.
- Please meet and greet and encourage your fellow parishioners without physical contact.
- Magazines, pamphlets and bulletins will be removed for now. The Sunday service bulletin will be delivered electronically.
- Be sure to bring your Bible; the pew Bibles and hymnals will be put away for some time.
- The library will be closed. Books can be lent but not returned until requested by the church staff.
- Bring your own hand sanitizer. If you forget, some will be available in the foyer. Sanitize your hands just before entering the building.
- Bring your own coffee. Coffee will not be prepared at church.

Document References

Back On Track Indiana

[Back On Track Indiana - Guidance to Places of Worship](#)