

How the Local Church Can Minister Up Close in a Remote World

As a coach and consultant to pastors and leaders across the nation, I am observing a new area of paradigm conflict among secular businesses and local church ministries. In this post-COVID world, we can all recognize significant shifts have occurred in how we operate, and many of them are permanent. This is not a temporary moment, but a transformation in how we will effectively achieve our assignments and fulfill our responsibilities.

Church trends have changed, and some people believe the church will never be the same numerically. I am not arguing with polls and surveys, but I am pursuing the exception to the rule. During COVID, I had the unique privilege of working with churches that pre-pandemic were averaging over 5,000 members down to churches the size of 60.

Two things happened with the pastors who gave me the distinct honor of serving them and walking through a time of unexpected challenges and unknown circumstances.

We Processed Not How to Take Care of the Church, but How to Take Care of the People

Relevant and valuable principles and priorities emerged. We recognized that the Sunday experience was no longer king, but engagement and community became the heartfelt needs of the people. Once we shifted our focus to the people and outreach, we were able to focus on how: