

## WHAT WILL OUR CHURCH LOOK LIKE AFTER LOCKDOWN?

This resource is designed to facilitate churches engaging in prayerful discussion about the effects of the coronavirus lockdown and how God wants them to move forward.

The questions can be worked through individually, or at a leaders' meeting, in small group settings or on team retreat days.

'Neither do people pour new wine into old wineskins. If they do, the skins will burst; the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved.' (Matthew 9:17)

### THE LOCKDOWN AND ME

*'Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.'* (Colossians 4:2)

1. How has the lockdown experience impacted my walk with the Lord?
2. What areas of my life has God been refining?
3. What habits have I begun that I want to continue?

### THE LOCKDOWN AND OUR CHURCH

*'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.'* (Matthew 11:28-30)

1. What have we missed the most about church?
2. Are there any things we've felt relieved to stop doing, things that we won't miss?
3. What kinds of support and activities are we offering in person and online, and why?
4. Have there been advantages to doing things in this way?

## EXITING LOCKDOWN AND BEYOND

*'Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.'* (Isaiah 43:18-19)

1. Are there things we were doing before lockdown that should not be restarted?
2. Are there things we have started doing in lockdown that should continue?
3. Are there new things that God is calling us to start?
4. People are now familiar with connecting online – how can we maximise this new way of meeting in all areas of church life?
5. How can we allocate our financial and people resources to achieve this?
6. What may be the enduring pastoral needs caused by lockdown – economic, emotional, spiritual, medical – that we will need to respond to?
7. How can we share the gospel with people in this new context?

## ADDITIONAL NOTES:

in association with:

