

S. J. Komanapalli

What is God saying to the Church through this pandemic time?

A PASTORAL APPROACH (SUMMARY)

It is with great pleasure that I present some viewpoints on the topic at hand for this consultation. As you all have received the paper and video, I will not go over the finer details but would like to offer a brief summary that would lead to a discussion.

As we speak at this time, some things have changed regarding the pandemic. We as a world were in a complete standstill but now, we are starting to reopen, reconnect and resume our lives. However, this does not take away from the lessons we have seen God speak to the church in the previous days.

The Covid-19 epidemic brought the world and along with it the Church to a standstill. Many chose to view this as a punishment from God. However, I would view it as God allowing something to happen that in the midst of this, He may bring change. I believe the Church was brought to a standstill along with other institutions because God wanted to use this time to bring a reset to the Church.

The Church needed to find its voice to be one of calm and comfort not given to conspiracies. Unfortunately, many times in the past days, we saw Christians and leaders promoting these conspiracies and fear. I believe leaders were faced with the fact they did not have the answers and found themselves looking to everything and everyone to be able to give their people some answers.

The Church also found itself stripped away of many of its accumulated trappings. The Church had changed from being Spirit Led to being Tech Driven. God was resetting the Church to its basic essence of being and message. Technology was repurposed to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. Leaders were driven to the Word of God rather than special effects and enhancements.

The leaders of the Church were also reminded of their personal altar and their family altars. We all were put in a place of isolation which lent itself to great devotional times with the Lord. We also saw a renewal in the family devotion which strengthened the family. This time of renewal and refreshing for the leader individually and for their families. This will result in them being stronger for the greater ministry in the days ahead.

As we all move into a new season of reopening may we not go back to the same old ways but rather take the lessons of this pandemic and go forward into the greater future God has for us.

Question 1. What were the lessons learned during this pandemic? How were you challenged and stretched?

Question2. How do you implement and graft into your ministry going forward?

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