

疫情中的「住家飯」 梁德舜牧師

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當「實體崇拜」變成「線上崇拜」，在居家令下，為了弟兄姊妹靈命不會餓著，繼續有恩典華浸「住家飯」吃，同工們開始建立線上崇拜和媒體製作的事工。

當眾教會在網上百花齊放，身為牧者的我，偶爾不斷自我提醒，與其百家爭鳴，倒不如多去欣賞、突破自我、謙卑學習他人的長處、靠主所賜智慧，為祂成就大事！

「實體崇拜」可能在五月底如常回到教堂進行。在這非常時期，出自對群羊的愛，牧者如歌羅西 1:28 願意用「諸般的智慧」來傳揚基督，行二裡路，繼續將羊群完全引到神面前。

我的母親於一九九五年四月安返天家，每次回到老家芙蓉市，其中最懷念是媽媽的「住家飯」。相仿，每次聽見教會郭主任傳道，在線上帶領崇拜，聆聽熟悉的囑咐聲，心靈就格外溫暖。

恩浸人，過去幾個主日，可能你也曾在線上參與其他教會或外州的教會網上崇拜。我自己某個主日也曾連續參加三、四間教會的網上崇拜，感覺和領受也不同。但不要忘記，外面食物無論多豐盛，切記要回家吃「住家飯」（聽自己教會牧者從主領受、用心傳講的信息）。容我再嘮叨一句，無論合口味與否，過鹹或太淡，可以建議，切莫批評，總不忘回饋牧者一些鼓勵的話，為她禱告，如同告訴母親說：「這餐真美味，有您真好，辛苦了，您是永遠無可被取代...」

日前我的好同工尤建中牧師從文化市傳來一篇短文短文，深被激勵，現與您分享：

- 「在同一輛巴士上，有人會被病毒傳染，有人平安無事，這是身體的免疫力。
- 同樣的封城隔離，有人一年吃喝不愁，有人一星期就拮据，這是財務的免疫力。
- 一樣的災難，有人陽光開朗、樂觀進取；有人怨天尤人，甚至仇視他人，這是心理的免疫力。
- 同樣待在家裏，有人在讀書、學習、成長、運動、工作、直播開會；也有人睡覺、看電視、玩遊戲、無所事事，這是價值觀的免疫力。
- 同樣是基督徒，有人心中平靜安穩、靠主得力、積極服事、渴慕主臨；有人焦慮不安、思慮煩擾，三心兩意，對神的話語半信半疑，這是屬靈的免疫力。

在這個疫情，是一個大浪淘沙的過程，對所有人的身體、閱歷、認知、人性、良知、勇氣、思維、靈魂、價值觀等，都是一場赤裸裸的篩選。

要戰勝這個嚴峻的考驗，我們最重要的是持續靠主得勝，積極提升所有免疫力。」

恩浸人啊，在 Covid-19 仍然未能完全控制時，求主賜我們繼續努力，靠主恩典，因我們既得了不能震動的國、就當感恩、照神所喜悅的、用虔誠敬畏的心事奉神。」希 12:28

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“Home-Cooking” During the Pandemic

Rev. Peter Leong

In compliance with “Shelter in Place” and for brothers and sisters to not go spiritually hungry, churches are providing “home-cooking” by transitioning from “In Person Worship” to “Online Worship”.

When churches began “Online Worship” all at the same time, the pastor in me started to wonder if this provides a good opportunity for me to affirm the work of my fellow ministers and in humility, learn from them as “a hundred flowers bloom and a hundred schools of thought contend”.

It is anticipated that by the end of May 2020, “In Person Worship” would return to churches. In these abnormal times, out of the love for their flocks, ministers strive mightily, in the words of the apostle Paul in Colossians 1:28, “with all wisdom” to proclaim Christ, admonishing and teaching everyone, walking the second mile to present everyone perfect in Christ.

My beloved mother went home to be with the Lord in April 1995. But every time I went back to my hometown, Seremban in Malaysia, I longed for my mom’s “home-cooking”. In the same way, every time I listen and watch our Minister in Charge, sister Nora Kwok, lead in worship, my heart is warmed by her familiar voice.

My fellow Gracers, in the past several weeks, you might have tuned on to online worship services in other churches locally or out of state. As for me, I have gone online and attended three or four such services every Sunday. The feelings I received from those “visits” are a little different than “home”. But remember this, no matter how good the “food” is out there, nothing compares to “home-cooking” (that is, being attentive to the words of your pastor.) But allow me to add, no matter whether it suits our taste, no matter whether it is too salty or not salty enough, we may offer our suggestions and opinions, but never forget to speak words of encouragement and appreciation and to pray for your shepherd just like we do to our moms by saying: The food is good. Thank you for your labor of love. There is no one like you, ever!

Several days ago, a dear brother and a fellow yokefellow in the Lord in Memphis Tennessee, the Rev. Kenny Yau, sent me a text which touched me greatly and I would like to share it with you:

- “Travelling on the same bus, some are infected by the coronavirus; but there are others who are not. That is the power of a healthy body immunity.

- Enduring the same lockdown, some are living on a full tank, but there are others running on empty. That is the power of financial immunity!
- Encountering the same pandemic, some people carry on life without a care; but there are those who complain all the time, putting the blame on and being envious of others. That is the power of emotional immunity!
- Being cooped up at home all the same, some would read books, learn, grow, exercise, work and engage in online conferences; but there are those who sleep, watch television, play video games and goof off. That is the power of “value” immunity.
- Experiencing the same pandemic, some Christians are at peace and remained calm, trusting God to pull them through, zealous in serving the Lord and looking forward to the coming of their Lord; but there are others who are unsettled and worrisome, indecisive, and of two minds about the word of God. That is the power of spiritual immunity.

This pandemic is like a huge wave breaking onto the beaches of humanity and through its force, sifting the sands of everything that we are - our physical bodies, life experiences, knowledge, character, conscience, courage, thoughts, soul, values and the like.

To emerge as victors in the trial of facing this virus, it is important to continue to trust God to help us overcome and to increase our immunity level in all aspects of life.”

My fellow Gracers, while we wait for the COVID 19 pandemic to finally blow over, remember that since we are receiving a Kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us strive forward by the grace of God and with His strength to be thankful, pleasing him in every way and to serve him with reverence and awe!

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