



**METHOD**

**M E S S A G E**

**THE METHOD HAS CHANGED, BUT THE  
MESSAGE REMAINS THE SAME**



**INSPIRED BY GOD-**

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During this rapidly changing time of being in the midst of the pandemic, there have been many questions raised. As a Pastor, I have had to take these questions under consideration regarding the function and operation of NDCM. Most recently I was asked, “How has ministry changed during COVID19?” My response; “The method has changed but the message remains the same!”

Let me further explain.

## What is Ministry?

Ministry, on its surface, can sometimes appear very complicated or confusing. Honestly, as believers and church leaders, we may have contributed to this confusion as a result of the many non-biblical traditions that are observed in churches today. So I think it is best to start with a good working definition of what does ministry actually mean. Ministry can be defined, at its very basic core, as “any activity in service to God”. Often we associate this activity more directly with what we see taking place in the pulpit on Sunday mornings. While this is important, it is only a part of the overall process of how and where ministry takes place or occurs. It is also good to note here that by definition, ministry is not just the responsibility of the Pastor - it is the responsibility of the church. All believers have been called to do their part through service to God in various activities that are outside of the pulpit.

## Purpose of Ministry:

There are three focuses that I want to emphasize here about the purpose of ministry. First, the purpose of ministry is to proclaim the Gospel - the word of God. Second, I want to emphasize that ministry is to glorify God. Third and final emphasis is placed on serving God. Ultimately our effort should result in the influence of others to follow Christ for the uplifting and building of God's Kingdom. The purpose of ministry was not only designed for being present on Sunday mornings, but rather for the purpose of invoking God's presence wherever the activity is being carried out. The bible teaches us in Matthew 18:20(NLT) that **“For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them.”**

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# THE **METHOD** HAS CHANGED, BUT THE **MESSAGE** REMAINS THE SAME... CONTINUED

## Concept of Ministry:

So what has changed about ministry during this time of the pandemic? The simple answer is that the change has been the method of how we minister. The use of live video conferencing, social media platforms, and digital media have become the primary sources in connecting believers for Bible Studies, Small Group Studies, Sunday Worship Services, and other activities. It has been my experience that these sources have expanded the concept of how we minister. Using these platforms does not just make opportunities to connect believers more accessible, but they are just as effective as being present for a Sunday Morning Worship Service.

## Final Thought

It is important to understand that a change in method does not mean the message suffers - the message must remain accurate and relevant to accomplish what we have been called to do according to God's purpose as believers. The method may change but the message remains the same.