

## In Times Like These

Discussion Guide 2020

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Below are questions you might like to reflect on together as Classis, church pastors/elders/deacons, and/or churches. Use one or more of the questions as is fitting to your time, setting, and interest(s).

### General Questions:

1. What opportunities have you discovered during the crisis so far?
2. What are you most excited about for the future? How will the obstacles you have led through become the opportunities you leverage?

### Time for Innovation

3. Will COVID-19 cause you to rethink how you use your facilities? Can they be used for a greater gospel purpose?
4. Is the Sunday-morning-only experience for most churchgoers about to die? How should you respond?
5. What changes would you make if you tossed out the old church calendar and started from a blank slate? What did you use to do that does not make sense anymore?

### Time for Church Online

6. What lessons can you learn from the digital world that you can apply anew on the other side of the pandemic? How can you do church differently digitally?
7. To put church online back on the shelf in the new normal is to ignore the greatest opportunity the church today has to reach people. What would you need to do to keep a digital presence for your church post COVID?

### Time to Pray

8. Personal Reflection: (as you reflect, spend some time in prayer)
  - a. Who should I be praying for?
  - b. What is God saying to me during this time?
  - c. How does God want to make me more like Him during this time?
9. What church wide prayer initiatives is your church engaged in? How can you raise the priority and the passion for prayer in your church?

### Time for Justice

10. As image bearers of God, if we are to uphold the cause of the oppressed (Psalm 146:7) and release the oppressed (Luke 4:18) what could you personally do to stand up for justice and mercy (Micah 6:8) in this moment of time? What could your church do?

### Time to Ask for Help

11. What resources will help you lead your church effectively in times like these? In what way can Jack De Vries come alongside you as a leader or you as a church to make the most of the opportunities in these unprecedented times?