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**Registered Charity:** 1131656

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### Letters to the Church during COVID-19: 23 June 2020

To the Church Family at KBC,

I hope you are well and keeping safe! It is a big week for us as a church family and we will be making a major decision regarding church life on Thursday. I say it is a major decision because it will affect everyone and potentially how we 'do' church on a Sunday moving forward. The decision I am talking about, of course, is the decision to have two morning services and a new styled evening meeting. It is a big change and I have felt the weight and significance of this for some time. Whilst praying about this yesterday I wrote down five words which I would like to share with you. They are: communication, engagement, indifference, unity and ownership. Let me explain what I sensed each word meant as I prayed them

**Communication:** I gave thanks for all the communication that has taken place between us and also for the time people have spent in prayer seeking God about this. From the initial sharing of thoughts in February, to the meeting in May where we met in groups, to the recommendation being brought by the Leadership team. A lot of communication and prayer has taken place and I am grateful for the everyone's input.

**Engagement:** I prayed that everyone would be engaged in the decision making process on Thursday so that together we can discern the heart and mind of Christ.

**Indifference:** I prayed that we would approach this decision with a prayer of indifference. With a heart, mind and attitude the same as that of Jesus kneeling in the garden where He prayed, 'Not my will be done, but yours'. It's not an easy place to come to but one which we must bring ourselves to. Where we are able to say, 'I do not mind the outcome, either way, I simply want His will to be done'. Only in this place can we hear His voice clearly.

**Unity:** I prayed for unity that should the push and pull of God in us differ, that above all we would maintain unity in the Spirit. The unity we have been given in Christ is an incredible gift and one which we should treasure and seek to protect.

**Ownership:** I prayed that whatever the outcome of the decision that we would all own it. I believe this is a real test and mark of maturity, that when a decision does not go the way we believe it should, that we own it none-the-less and work tirelessly alongside others to see His will being done.

Communication, engagement, indifference, unity and ownership - these are the things I am praying for each of us and above all that His will be done in us, through us and among us.

I look forward to engaging in the Church Meeting with you on Thursday.

Grace be with you!  
Stu

#KeepTrusting #KeepConnected #Call4Support

### **Notices and Upcoming events on Zoom:**

Thursday: Church Member's Meeting.

Friday: Children and Youth on line for those aged 11+ at 7pm.

Sunday: 10:30am, Sunday Morning Service (we will open the room at 10am for people to gather to chat and leave it open after the service for people to chat as well).

Sunday: 7pm, there will be a time of worship until about 8.30pm led by a few of us from the music group. It's very informal, but an opportunity to worship God in song.

**KBC YouTube channel:** Here you will find our new daily mini devotional series 'Therefore..' and back copies of Stu's daily devotional series 'You are....' and our sermons each week. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0IqZEJkxDYGSeCQCw6onJw/featured>

**Resources:** Do not forget to check out our resources page on our website, which is constantly being updated, including resources for families and activities for children and youth: <https://kingswoodbaptistchurch.co.uk/resources/>

**The Gathering 2020 – The Bunker Edition**, from Friday 7:30pm – Saturday 23:00pm  
Connect via You Tube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Exh-rDC8o-M&feature=youtu.be> Or Facebook  
<https://www.facebook.com/CVMen/posts/10159976569190760>.