The way we do life has become different over the course of this year.

For sure, the way we are doing life has become more difficult. What are we to do? Do we give up? Do we quit? This morning, we consider some of the challenges facing our Church. What will the future of FBC look like? The question is outstanding; will we be a Church that succumbs to Covid, will we survive Covid, or will we be a Church in the future that makes an even greater Kingdom presence because of it?

I. How has Covid affected the Church?
1. Covid is a disrupter not an interrupter
2. Covid is an accelerant for change
3. Covid is a <u>clarifier of our purpose</u>
a. Will we be a church that is increasingly dependent on <u>prayer</u> ?
b. Will we be a church that is focused on the <u>Great Commission</u> ?
c. Will we be a church that is open to <u>radical change</u> ?
d. Will we be a church that is willing to <u>sacrifice for the Gospel</u> ?
II. There are some things that have not and will not change.
1. God is still <u>sovereign</u>
2. The Bible is still <u>the Word of God</u>
3. Jesus is still the only way to salvation
4. People still <u>need to hear the good news of the Gospel</u>
5. Followers of Jesus still <u>need to grow as disciples</u>

Every great challenge the Lord's church has faced in the past 2,000 years has been met with God's power and pathways. God is preparing His church for a new era and new opportunities. May He find us faithful.

- ¹ We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves.
- ² Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.
- ³ For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me."
- ⁴ For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.