



Four Ways to Lead During Uncertain Times

Serving Leaders in Ministry

*Ronnie Floyd serves as president and CEO of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee. You can read more from Dr. Floyd at www.ronniefloyd.com

Pastor: Your leadership skills will be stretched during these uncertain times, but God's divine power has granted everything you need for life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3). Let the following article from Dr. Ronnie Floyd* be an encouraging reminder of the *hope* that is within you.

Pastors have a divine calling on their lives. In times like these, pastors can speak not only to their church but to their community, their nation, and even the world. Regardless of the size of your church, whether you are a full time or bi-vocational pastor, God has *called you, anointed you, and raised you* to lead in times like these.

Therefore, consider these four ways a pastor can lead through this current crisis:

1. Lead by preaching the Bible.

People do not expect you to be a medical expert on the coronavirus (COVID-19), nor do they come to hear you pontificate on political issues.

- People need a word from God in these uncertain times, so preach the Bible and provide hope to everyone.
- Preach with confidence and conviction, calling people to respond to God.
- Preach the good news of Jesus Christ to the whole world. People need Jesus and people need Jesus **NOW**.



2. Lead by leading with confidence.

As a pastor, you are *called by God*, *anointed by God*, and *raised by God* to lead in times like these.

- Lead wisely under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, shepherding the church and pleasing God, not people.
- Lead your church as you know and declare God is sovereign over all things. Keep the end in mind: **Jesus wins**. He alone is King of kings and Lord of lords. Not one circumstance threatens God from being God.
- Lead by setting the attitudinal thermostat in your church. You are not there to *reflect* the attitude of your church but to *set* the attitude in your church. Therefore, lead with confidence.

3. Lead by praying like it matters.

Place even greater priority on prayer in your worship services and online gatherings.

- Pray with **confidence**, knowing that God cares for you and all the people in the world.
- Pray with **authority**, knowing that God is our ultimate **Healer** of all disease and pain.
- Pray *with* your people and *for* your people.
- Pray for leaders in government, community, medicine, business, and church as they work together toward a common solution.

4. Lead by working strategically through your greatest challenges.

- Strategize how you can increase your church's online presence and proclaim the gospel through live streaming.
- Strategize how you can communicate with your people instantaneously and more effectively.
- Strategize how you can maintain financial support for your church's mission and ministry, including emphasizing online giving.
- Strategize how you can sharpen your church's focus on the Great Commission of Jesus Christ, our ultimate priority of making disciples of all the nations.

Pastors, arise in these uncertain times and lead God's people triumphantly through this season. By God's grace and for His glory, you can do it. We are cheering you on.

