

What the Church Needs to Know about Covid-19



Jeff Childers

Aug 29 70 1 ↗

And What to Do About It

Dear Pastor or Father,

This might be one of the most important and timely things you've ever read. If you take the time to read it, and then you disagree, I'll reimburse you for your time. I'm not joking.

I'm an attorney. Don't hate me for it! I'll suddenly be your best friend on the day you need me, don't worry. I only mention it because I am a *litigating* attorney and everything I cite in this article will be something I can prove in court. No conspiracy theories. Most of the data comes from the CDC, the NIH, the FDA, other state agencies, or major American newspapers. I don't truck in conspiracy theory because, by definition, they're unprovable.

God gave me a message to give you:

When the Church wakes up, this will all be over.

But if the Church DOESN'T wake up, this will BE all over.

The fact that I don't have to tell you what "this" is speaks volumes. Let's get started.

What You Don't Know About Covid-19

- 1. We are now near the lowest point of mortality since the pandemic began.**



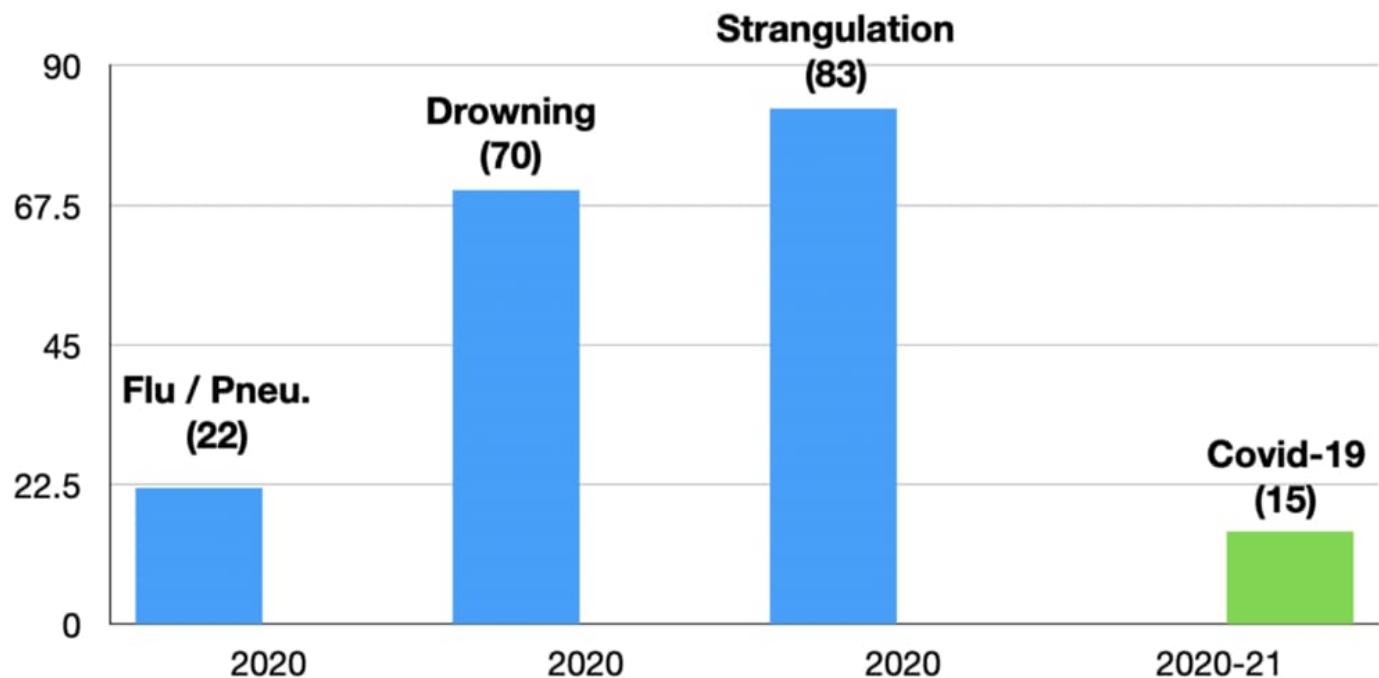
2. The CDC's weekly U.S. mortality dashboard reports that deaths are at the lowest weekly point since March 2020:

Week ending date in which the death occurred	All Deaths involving COVID-19 [1]	Deaths from All Causes	Percent of Expected Deaths [2]	Deaths involving Pneumonia [3]	Deaths involving COVID-19 and Pneumonia [3]	All Deaths involving Influenza [4]	Deaths involving Pneumonia, Influenza, or COVID-19 [5]	Week ending date in which the death occurred	All Deaths involving COVID-19 [1]
8/7/2021	1,170	15,221	30	1,261	679	0	1,752	10/31/2020	7,022
7/31/2021	2,085	33,905	67	2,576	1,219	3	3,445	10/24/2020	5,996
7/24/2021	2,043	45,232	89	3,144	1,181	9	4,012	10/17/2020	5,198
8/7/21	1,337	7/17/2021	1,707	49,449	97	3,275	949	7	4,039
7/10/2021	1,481	51,569	100	3,190	831	3	3,842	10/10/2020	4,817
7/3/2021	1,420	52,928	103	3,085	779	7	3,732	10/3/2020	4,241
5/26/2021	1,538	53,162	103	3,252	820	8	3,977	9/26/2020	4,299
5/19/2021	1,704	53,775	104	3,436	935	10	4,211	9/19/2020	4,276
5/12/2021	1,965	53,790	103	3,536	1,088	6	4,419	9/12/2020	4,626
5/5/2021	2,266	54,436	105	3,678	1,287	9	4,664	9/5/2020	5,015
5/29/2021	2,692	54,524	105	3,837	1,504	4	5,028	8/29/2020	5,746
5/22/2021	3,143	56,148	107	4,183	1,751	8	5,582	8/22/2020	6,383
5/15/2021	3,601	56,123	107	4,348	1,975	10	5,979	8/15/2020	7,261
5/8/2021	3,897	56,782	106	4,601	2,094	8	6,410	8/8/2020	7,867
5/1/2021	4,093	57,844	108	4,763	2,204	4	6,655	8/1/2020	8,302
4/24/2021	4,505	58,374	108	5,009	2,423	14	7,102	7/25/2020	8,240
4/17/2021	4,388	57,373	104	4,843	2,339	8	6,897	7/18/2020	7,192
4/10/2021	4,236	59,189	106	4,868	2,227	12	6,887	7/11/2020	5,785
4/3/2021	4,137	57,134	102	4,670	2,126	17	6,695	6/27/2020	3,841
3/27/2021	4,401	59,229	104	5,007	2,313	17	7,109	6/20/2020	3,847
3/20/2021	4,825	58,798	103	5,210	2,523	7	7,517	6/13/2020	4,230
3/13/2021	5,605	60,272	104	5,657	2,982	13	8,289	6/6/2020	5,055
3/6/2021	6,559	62,199	108	6,424	3,551	26	9,450	5/30/2020	6,170
2/27/2021	8,519	66,045	114	7,493	4,600	18	11,422	5/23/2020	7,247
2/20/2021	10,643	68,723	117	8,869	5,833	15	13,692	5/16/2020	9,234
2/13/2021	13,305	70,660	118	10,122	7,195	24	16,248	5/9/2020	11,231
2/6/2021	16,815	75,727	128	12,204	9,138	28	19,898	5/2/2020	13,214
1/30/2021	20,235	78,973	132	13,861	10,821	34	23,294	4/25/2020	15,549
1/23/2021	23,590	83,462	137	15,823	12,606	31	26,823	4/18/2020	17,200
1/16/2021	25,619	87,226	140	16,943	13,575	34	29,010	4/11/2020	16,317
1/9/21	25,894	86,883	141	16,903	13,518	32	29,294	3/28/2020	3,214
1/2/2021	24,814	86,931	148	16,058	12,645	44	28,246	3/21/2020	587
12/26/2020	23,361	84,362	144	14,908	11,584	32	26,701	3/14/2020	60
12/19/2020	22,321	82,930	143	14,317	11,013	32	25,638	3/7/2020	37
12/12/2020	20,921	82,004	143	13,289	10,038	30	24,187	2/29/2020	9
12/5/2020	18,560	77,426	137	12,094	8,909	34	21,766	2/22/2020	6
11/28/2020	15,619	73,305	133	10,472	7,509	27	18,595	2/15/2020	2
11/21/2020	13,356	71,676	130	9,428	6,327	30	16,477	2/8/2020	2
11/14/2020	10,646	68,822	125	8,068	5,042	20	13,686	2/1/2020	1
11/7/2020	8,756	67,590	124	7,095	4,085	21	11,779	Total	610,437

You didn't know that, did you? With the "Delta variant" raging and all that. You probably thought that mortality was through the roof. It's not.

(Update 9/1/2021: Mortality is ticking up again, for reasons that will become clear below, and probably because the southern summer Covid wave is transitioning to the northern states' fall wave. But the point remains the same, which is (1) you've been told for two months that things are dire, and they weren't, and (2) even now we are still seeing only a fraction of the mortality from the winter 2021 and spring 2020 levels.)

3. Pediatric mortality from Covid in Florida is below **flu** levels. For all of 2020, there were 22 pediatric deaths from influenza in Florida. For all of 2020 and 2021 combined, there have only been 15 pediatric deaths from Covid-19:

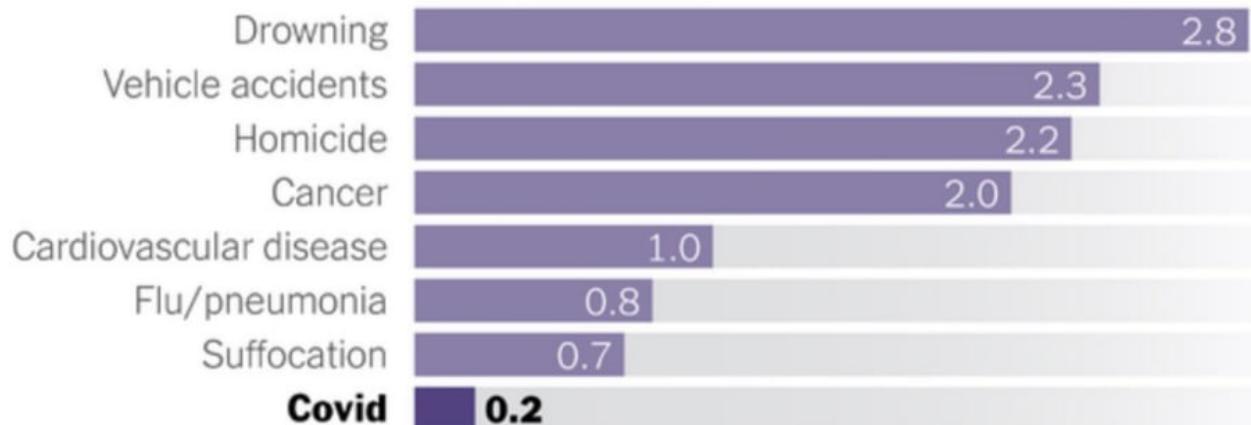


Those other risks like drowning and suffocation are *much* more significant for kids than Covid-19. In fact, Covid-19 has been the *least likely cause of death for kids in the United States*:

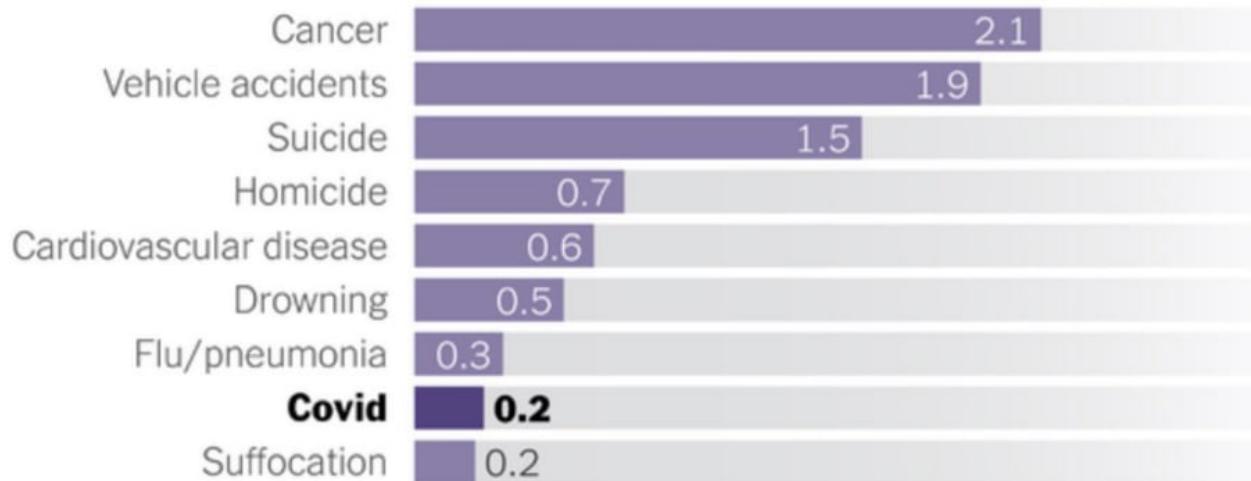
Annual Deaths Among Children in the United States

Per 100,000

1 to 4 years old



5 to 14 years old



Covid data is for the 52 weeks ending April 10, 2021. Other data is for 2018.

By The New York Times | Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

4. We are probably well over the summer peak already, at least in southern states like Florida. Northern states probably still have their seasonal fall wave coming. The Harvard/Yale "R-naught" dashboard reports that Florida's score is in the mid-70's. R-naught, or "R0," is the measure of how infectious the virus is. If the R0 is 1, then one infected person in turn infects one other person, and the virus is stable. If the R0 is 2, then one infected person in turn infects two other persons, and the virus is spreading. Here's the latest dashboard for my county in Florida, in the midst of "Delta variant" hysteria:

Alachua County -

County R_t
0.74

County infection rate
205.8
inf/100k/day

Total county cases
32K

Total county infections
130K
(3.98x diagnoses)

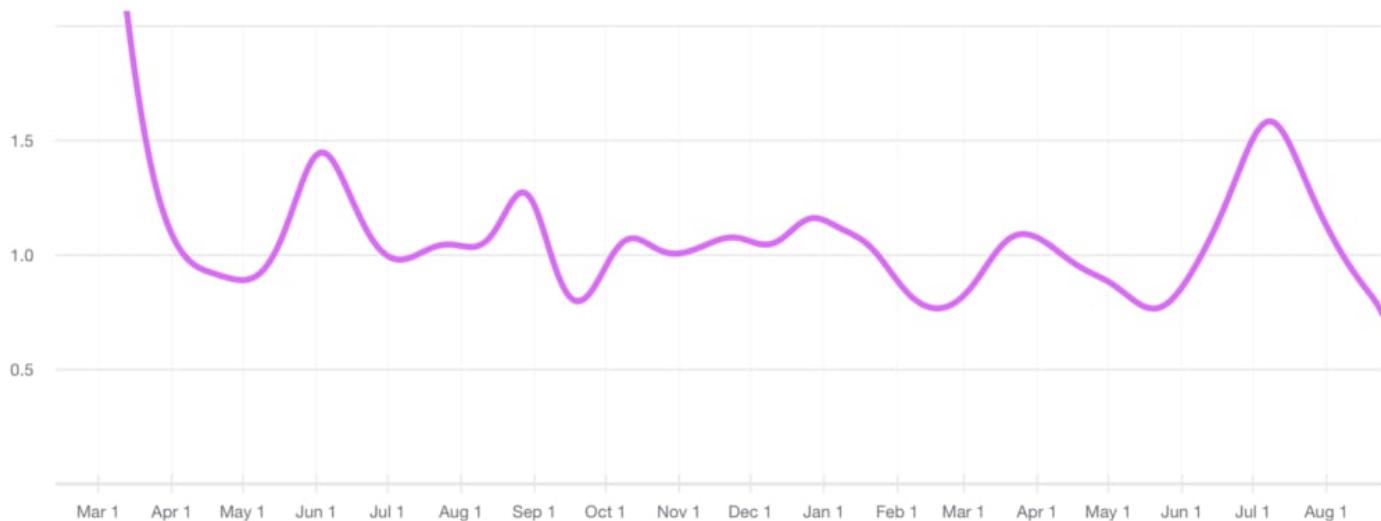
Show history?

Show neighbors?

Data display
All **Last 8mo**

Effective Reproduction Number · R_t

R_t is the average number of people who will become infected by a person infected at time t. If it's above 1.0, COVID-19 cases will increase in the near future. If it's below 1.0, COVID-19 cases will decrease in the near future.



You can see where it peaked at around 1.7 in July, but is now down to 0.74. Note the language in the description: "If it's below 1.0, COVID-19 cases will decrease in the near future."

Here's where things start to get difficult. In early August — this month — the CDC announced ominously that Covid-19's R_0 was "the same as chickenpox." Chickenpox has an R_0 of 10.0 — one of the highest recorded viral R_0 's of *any virus*, ever recorded. Comparing Covid to Chickenpox was such a bizarre and blatant distortion of reality that even NPR had to call out the CDC:



ON AIR 0:00

Morning Edition with Cathy Wurzer

COVID-19**The CDC said the delta variant is as contagious as chickenpox. That's not accurate**

Michaeleen Doucleff August 11, 2021 4:51 a.m.

So keep this question in mind: If we can't count on the CDC for accurate information, *then who can we count on?*

5. We now know that the vaccine immunity is NOT long-lasting.

It's short-lasting. Even Pfizer and Moderna say so. Dr. Fauci just announced that boosters might be needed every five months:

**NEWS****Biden, Fauci discuss requiring COVID booster shots every 5 months**By [Steven Nelson](#)

August 27, 2021 | 2:18pm | Updated

Every five months. Wow. That's not very long. And we haven't known about this short-lasting vaccine problem for very long, either. Just since early this month, in fact:

VACCINES & SAFETY PREMIUM

Effectiveness of Some COVID-19 Vaccines Has Dropped Significantly: Study

By [Zachary Stieber](#)

August 12, 2021 Updated: August 12, 2021

AA
Print

Three weeks ago the U.S. government was calling for booster shots every *eight* months. Last week they shortened it to every *six* months. Now it's at five months. We've lost three months of protection in two weeks. But even worse, in countries that are far ahead of us in vaccination rate, vaccinated people are getting serious Covid-19 in large numbers:



The Daily Beast  @thedailybeast

Yesterday

Ultra-Vaxed Israel's Crisis Is a Dire Warning to America

The massive surge of COVID-19 infections in Israel, one of the most vaccinated countries on earth, is pointing to a complicated path ahead for America.

Photo via @thedailybeast

PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION PREMIUM

Majority of Hospitalized COVID-19 Patients at Hospital in Israel Are Fully Vaccinated: Doctor

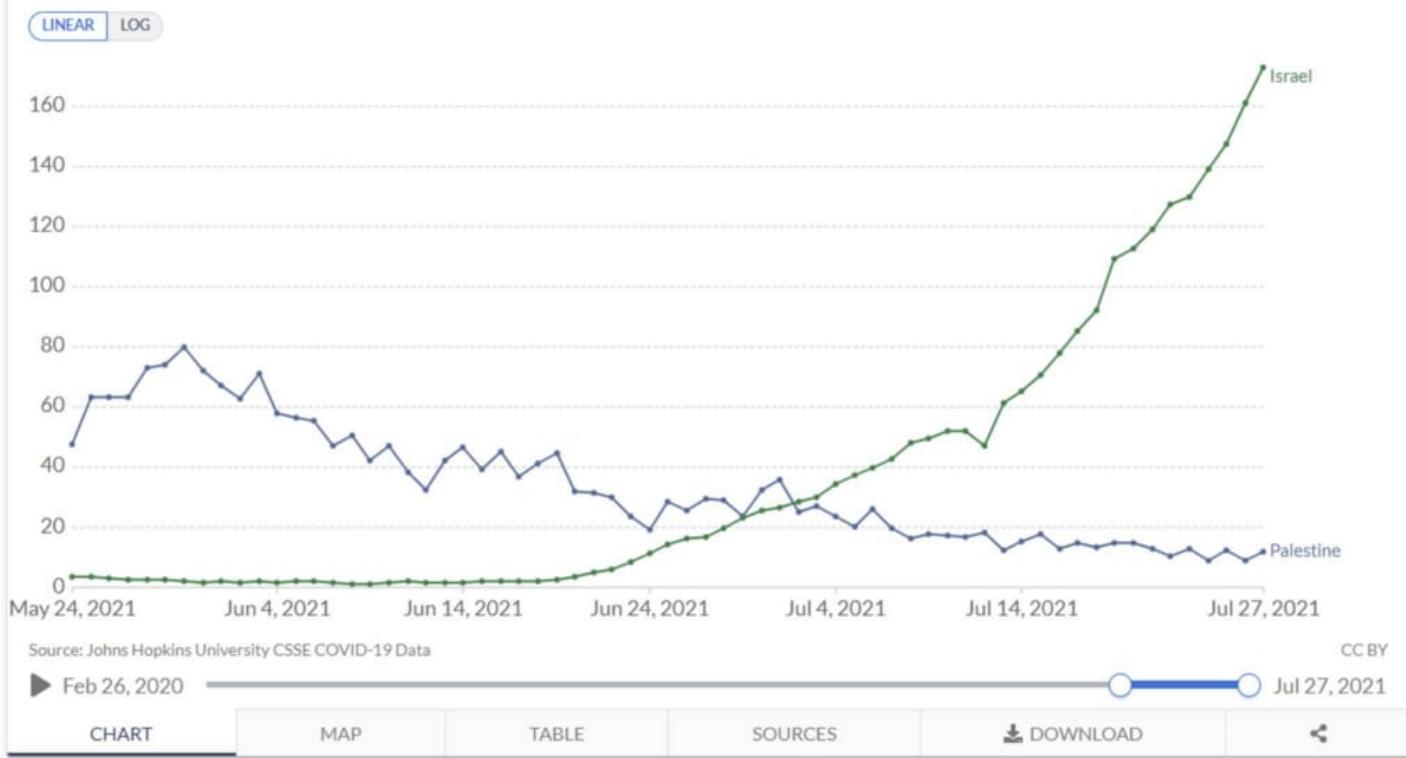
By [Meiling Lee](#) | August 7, 2021 Updated: August 10, 2021
AA
Print

Oddly, Covid-19 infections in Israel (80% vaccinated) are spiking, while Covid-19 infections in the neighboring Palestinian territory (11% vaccinated) are flat:

Daily new confirmed COVID-19 cases per million people

Our World
in Data

Shown is the rolling 7-day average. The number of confirmed cases is lower than the number of actual cases; the main reason for that is limited testing.



It's happening in Britain, too:

thebmjopinion

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Significant proportions of people admitted to hospital, or dying from covid-19 in England are vaccinated—this doesn't mean the vaccines don't work

August 25, 2021

Finally, in late August, 2021, CDC Director Walensky admitted that the U.S. will likely see the same types of increasing post-vaccination hospitalizations here, too:

"The data that we've been looking at is our international colleagues, who are ahead of us both in the Delta surge as well as, um, have vaccinated large — a few weeks ahead of us in terms of large portions of their population that have been vaccinated. Data that we've seen from our international colleagues, specifically and especially Israel, have demonstrated, um, **a worsening of infections among vaccinated people over time**. And so, um, we are — remain concerned about that. As we see in the context of Delta variant, some breakthroughs that are occurring, um, and decreased vaccine effectiveness that is occurring in the context of infection. Um, we are watching the experience of other countries carefully,

and are concerned that we too will see what Israel is seeing, which is worsening infections over time."

6. But we have also learned that natural immunity IS long-lasting.

Many scientists predicted this, but the CDC initially rejected the idea. In February, 2021, Dr. Fauci said that vaccine-induced immunity was "longer, broader, and more durable than natural immunity." But now we know that vaccine immunity wanes quickly, and has to be refreshed as often as every five months. But on the other hand, natural immunity is looking **very** long-lasting:

NEWS & POLITICS

Preliminary Data From Israel Suggests Durable Immunity to the Delta Variant in Recovered COVID-19 Patients

Natural Immunity After COVID-19 Found Durable and Robust



Fact checked by Robert Carlson, MD + 1

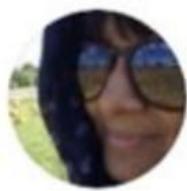
Published July 26, 2021

Fact checked August 2, 2021

Most recovered COVID-19 patients mount broad, durable immunity after coronavirus infection



Pinned Tweet



Apoorva Mandavilli  @ap... · May 26 · ...

NEW: Immunity to the coronavirus lasts at least a year, possibly a lifetime, and improves over time especially after vaccination, according to two new studies. 

Having SARS-CoV-2 once confers much greater immunity than a vaccine—but no infection parties, please

By [Meredith Wadman](#) | Aug. 26, 2021, 8:00 PM

What does this mean? Maybe we should be focusing on a strategy to protect vulnerable people by sheltering them, while letting the healthy population get through Covid-19 as quickly as possible, treating them for serious cases. Maybe boosting everyone with a brand-new vaccine for the rest of their lives is not the best strategy. Just saying.

7. Vaccines were sold to us on the theory we'd use them to get to “herd immunity.” But that ship has now sailed and fallen off the edge of the Earth.

In late 2020, Fauci, the CDC, and large news agencies were all telling us that the vaccines would help us reach herd immunity, where the virus has nowhere to go because so many people have been immunized:



Esther Choo MD MPH  @choo_ek · Oct 15, 2020

There is one path to herd immunity in this pandemic, and that is through a vaccine. Until then, do what public health experts everywhere are recommending: wear a mask, follow social distancing guidelines, care about other humans.

[Show this thread](#)

Whoops. Since we now know that vaccinated people can still get and transmit the infection, there is **no way** we can ever reach herd immunity through the vaccine:

[yahoo.news](#)

'It's mythical': COVID jab will never result in herd immunity, warns UK's top vaccine boss

f

Rebecca Speare-Cole

Tue, August 10, 2021, 12:00 PM · 4 min read

▼

Back in March of this year, CDC Director Rochelle Walensky said:

The data suggests that vaccinated people **do not carry the virus**.

But this month, on August 6, she told Wolf Blitzer:

Our vaccines are working exceptionally well, they continue to work well for delta with regard to severe illness and death, they prevent it, but **what they can't do anymore is prevent transmission**.

They can't prevent transmission of the virus. **Can't**. No herd immunity.

At this point, you might be wondering, what IS the plan now? What ARE we trying to accomplish with the vaccines? Jabbing people every few months forever? *I am concerned that there IS NO PLAN now. No plan except to continue doing what isn't working.* And you know what they call *that*.

8. And, the Covid vaccines are leaky. Leaky vaccines make viruses mutate faster and become more deadly.

A "leaky" vaccine is one that provides some health benefits but doesn't immunize the patient. So the virus can keep living inside the vaccinated person, and mutating. It mutates to try to "escape" the vaccine's limited protection. Take a look at what one recent study says about leaky vaccines.

How unequal vaccine distribution promotes the evolution of vaccine escape

Philip J Gerrish, Fernando Saldaña, Benjamin Galeota-Sprung, Alexandre Colato, Erika E Rodriguez, Jorge X Velasco Hernández

The threat of vaccine escape in the past has depended largely on the particular virus. Polio and measles vaccines are two stellar examples of highly effective vaccines to which the respective viruses have not evolved escape strains. Flu vaccines, on the other hand, are notoriously “leaky”, with rampant vaccine escape emerging every flu season and creating the need for a new flu vaccine every year. Vaccine escape has effectively prevented the development of an HIV vaccine because mutants able to “escape” any conceivable vaccine target preexist in circulating virus. Where the many different SARS-CoV-2 vaccines stand in this wide spectrum of vaccine-escape susceptibility is still a matter of debate, but increasingly the evidence indicates escape is a real threat [2–9]. The E484K mutation in the backgrounds of UK variant B.1.1.7 or South African variant B.1.135 are two particularly worrisome variants [5, 9]. There is even some concern, and evidence, that new variants may be able to evade natural immunity to SARS-CoV-2 in previously-infected hosts through “immune escape” [8–10]; this does not bode well for prospects of lasting vaccine-induced immunity [11, 12]. Finally, a recent study [13] reveals that closely-related endemic human coronavirus 229E displays evidence of “antigenic drift” – the same process of rapid antigenic evolution that occurs in Influenza.

We have known for some time that leaky vaccines push viruses to mutate faster:

IMMUNOLOGY

Vaccines Are Pushing Pathogens to Evolve

13 |

Just as antibiotics breed resistance in bacteria, vaccines can incite changes that enable diseases to escape their control. Researchers are working to head off the evolution of new threats.

May 10, 2018

AFP

'Leaky' vaccines may strengthen viruses: study

July 28, 2015

In recent years, experts have wondered if leaky vaccines were to blame for the emergence of these hot strains. The 1970s introduction of the Marek's disease immunizations for baby chicks kept the poultry industry from collapse, but people soon learned that vaccinated birds were catching "the bug" without subsequently dying. Then, over the last half century, symptoms for Marek's worsened. Paralysis was more permanent; brains more quickly turned to mush.

"People suspected the vaccine, but the problem was that it was never shown before experimentally," said virologist **Klaus Osterrieder** of the Free University of Berlin, who wasn't involved in the study. "The field has talked about these types of experiments for a very long time, and I'm really glad to see the work finally done."

9. Forget about mutations and variants. Because the vaccines are leaky, and because animals can catch Covid-19, we can NEVER get rid of it. Never.

In early August a new study of white-tailed deer, which live in 49 states in the U.S., showed that almost half (40%) of them had Covid-19 antibodies. Almost HALF:

Wild U.S. deer found with coronavirus antibodies

A new study detected coronavirus antibodies in 40 percent of deer tested this year. Here's why that matters.

PUBLISHED AUGUST 2, 2021 • 7 MIN READ

We now know of up to 20 species of animals that can catch the virus, including household cats and dogs. The technical terminology for this phenomenon is that the Covid-19 virus has an "animal reservoir."

Several gorillas test positive for COVID-19 at California zoo—first in the world

They are the world's first non-human primates with confirmed cases of the virus.

Even if we could vaccinate every single man, woman, and child in the world all on the same day, we still couldn't get rid of Covid. The animals would re-infect us. And you can't vaccinate the animals, because they don't respond to shaming or threats of loss of employment.

What does all this mean?

It means this:

- Vaccinated folks are probably driving most mutations, not unvaccinated.
- Natural immunity is far longer, broader, and more durable than vaccine-induced immunity.
- Vaccination will not stop infections or create herd immunity.
- Covid cannot be eradicated because of Animal Reservoirs.
- Covid is here to stay.

And the Israel experience suggests that, as we increase vaccinations, serious hospitalizations are going to spike here, too. We have a "complicated" future coming soon. What are you going to do about it?

Part II

Covid and the Spirit of Fear

There is a demonic spirit of fear suffocating the Earth. You know I'm right.

The Spirit of Fear is destroying relationships and tearing the Church apart. Unvaccinated grandparents are being told by their children that they can't see their grand kids and not to come around. Bizarrely, *vaccinated* members of your church are fearful and distrusting of their unvaccinated brothers and sisters.

But Christians, in particular, are not supposed to fear. We'll get to that in a minute.

Where is all this fear coming from? Here's a recent cover from Newsweek:

Great Science Trips, on Earth

Newsweek

08.13.2021

THE **DOOMSDAY** VARIANT



COVID keeps mutating into
scary new threats.
How worried should we be?

The "Doomsday Variant." Doomsday! It asks, "How worried should we be?" *How worried. Not "Should we be worried?"* Worry is presumed. But when you read the article, it admits *there is no doomsday variant*. It just says that experts "can't rule it out." It's mere speculation. It might have been helpful to mention that on the cover, don't you think?

Anyway, I disagree. There IS a doomsday variant. The doomsday variant is *fear*.

This Spirit of Fear has caused a tsunami of worldwide terror and destruction:



Covid-19 is thought to have affected the mental health of around 10 million people (Image: Getty Images)

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'Covid has caused a tsunami of anxiety, depression and mental distress'

Dr Miriam Stoppard says it's vital doctors are given the time and resources to support patients who are suffering mentally from the toll of the last year, which has caused a tsunami of anxiety, depression and mental distress

OPINION By **Miriam Stoppard**

17:01, 8 Aug 2021



In a huge new study, just published, of FIVE MILLION Covid-19 patients, guess what is now tied for first place as the most likely predictor of mortality once someone goes in the hospital? *Fear.*

Underlying Medical Conditions and Severe Illness Among 540,667 Adults Hospitalized With COVID-19, March 2020–March 2021

ORIGINAL RESEARCH — Volume 18 — July 1, 2021  4.163

Lyudmyla Kompaniyets, PhD¹; Audrey F. Pennington, PhD¹; Alyson B. Goodman, MD^{1,2}; Hannah G. Rosenblum, MD^{1,3}; Brook Belay, MD¹; Jean Y. Ko, PhD^{1,2}; Jennifer R. Chevinsky, MD^{1,3}; Lynda Z. Schieber, DPhil, MD¹; April D. Summers, MPH¹; Amy M. Lavery, PhD¹; Leigh Ellyn Preston, DrPH¹; Melissa L. Danielson, MSPH¹; Zhaohui Cui, PhD¹; Gonzalez Namulanda, DrPH¹; Hussain Yusuf, MD¹; William R. MacKenzie, MD^{1,2}; Karen K. Wong, MD^{1,2}; James Baggs, PhD¹; Tegan K. Boehmer, PhD^{1,2}; Adi V. Gundlapalli, MD, PhD¹ (View author affiliations)

Suggested citation for this article: Kompaniyets L, Pennington AF, Goodman AB, Rosenblum HG, Belay B, Ko JY, et al. Underlying Medical Conditions and Severe Illness Among 540,667 Adults Hospitalized With COVID-19, March 2020–March 2021. *Prev Chronic Dis* 2021;18:210123. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5888/pcd18.210123>

Number one used to be obesity. No surprise there. But fear has crept up the charts, and is now tied for number one, *with* obesity. Fear and anxiety related **disorders**:

Relative risk of death in the full model was 30% higher with obesity (95% CI, 27%–33%), 28% higher with anxiety and fear-related disorders (95% CI, 25%–31%), 26% higher with diabetes with complication (95% CI, 24%–28%), 21% higher with CKD (95% CI, 19%–24%), 18% higher with neurocognitive disorders including dementia and Alzheimer's disease (95% CI, 15%–21%), 18% higher with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and bronchiectasis (95% CI, 16%–20%), 17% higher with aplastic anemia including anemia in CKD (95% CI, 14%–19%), 14% higher with coronary atherosclerosis and other heart disease (95% CI, 12%–16%), and 4% higher with thyroid disorders including hypothyroidism (95% CI, 2%–6%) (Table 2). These conditions were also associated with a higher risk of IMV and ICU admission.

So, your risk of dying if you are hospitalized with Covid is +30% if you're obese and +28% if you have any "anxiety and fear-related disorders." Those disorders weren't even on the list a year ago. I predict they will take first place soon, if they haven't already. In other words, I expect fear and anxiety disorders will soon be the NUMBER ONE predictor of mortality if a person is hospitalized with Covid-19, if not already.

The Spirit of Fear is *literally killing people*.

The scientific literature is BLOWING UP with fear and anxiety-related issues.

The prevalence of depression, anxiety, and sleep disturbances in COVID-19 patients: a meta-analysis

Jiawen Deng ¹, Fangwen Zhou ¹, Wenteng Hou ¹, Zachary Silver ², Chi Yi Wong ¹,
Oswin Chang ¹, Emma Huang ¹, Qi Kang Zuo ³

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 33009668 PMCID: [PMC7675607](#) DOI: [10.1111/nyas.14506](#)

[Free PMC article](#)

High levels of anxiety during the COVID-19 pandemic as a risk factor of clinical worsening in patients with severe asthma

Piotr Lacwik ¹, Dorota Szydłowska ², Maciej Kupczyk ³, Cezary Pałczyński ⁴, Piotr Kuna ²

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 33440258 PMCID: [PMC7797186](#) DOI: [10.1016/j.jaip.2020.12.060](#)

[Free PMC article](#)

COVID-19 and the consequences of isolating the elderly

Richard Armitage ¹, Laura B Nellums ²

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 32199471 PMCID: [PMC7104160](#) DOI: [10.1016/S2468-2667\(20\)30061-X](#)

[Free PMC article](#)

Prevalence of depression, anxiety, and insomnia among healthcare workers during the COVID-19 pandemic: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Sofia Pappa ¹, Vasiliki Ntella ², Timoleon Giannakas ², Vassilis G Giannakoulis ², Eleni Papoutsi ², Paraskevi Katsaounou ³

Elevated depression and anxiety symptoms among pregnant individuals during the COVID-19 pandemic

Catherine Lebel ¹, Anna MacKinnon ², Mercedes Bagshawe ³, Lianne Tomfohr-Madsen ⁴, Gerald Giesbrecht ⁴

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 32777604 PMCID: [PMC7395614](#) DOI: [10.1016/j.jad.2020.07.126](#)

[Free PMC article](#)

Worst of all? The *children* may be the largest single group of victims of the Spirit of Fear:

New Online Views 7,434 | Citations 0 | Altmetric 574 | Comments Download PDF  More ▾ Cite This Permissions**Original Investigation**

ONLINE FIRST

FREE

August 9, 2021

Global Prevalence of Depressive and Anxiety Symptoms in Children and Adolescents During COVID-19

A Meta-analysis

Nicole Racine, PhD, RPsych^{1,2}; Brae Anne McArthur, PhD, RPsych^{1,2}; Jessica E. Cooke, MSc^{1,2}; [et al](#)[» Author Affiliations](#) | Article Information

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Conclusions and Relevance Pooled estimates obtained in the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic suggest that 1 in 4 youth globally are experiencing clinically elevated depression symptoms, while 1 in 5 youth are experiencing clinically elevated anxiety symptoms. These pooled estimates, which increased over time, are double of pre-pandemic estimates. An influx of mental health care utilization is expected, and allocation of resources to address child and adolescent mental health concerns are essential.

Clinically-elevated symptoms of pediatric depression. *Clinical* levels. In 25% of kids. Think about that for a minute. Kids are wondering what they have to live for. And nobody's giving them spiritual counseling or — most importantly—hope. What proportion does that have to reach before we start paying attention to that problem? 50%? 75%?

Only fifteen children have died from Covid in Florida in a year and a half. But a quarter of *all of them* are suffering from clinical levels of fear and depression. Think about that. That is a *spiritual* problem.

The hospitals are filling up with people who are experiencing life-threatening levels of anxiety. Here's one example I received recently from a doctor in the largest hospital chain in Massachusetts:

AA

 mail.google.com

Primary



Dear Colleagues:

In recent weeks, hospitals across Mass General Brigham, the region and country, have experienced significant increases in Emergency Department patient visits and inpatient occupancy along with unprecedented demand for procedural and acute mental and behavioral health services.

The great majority of the demand is driven by the deferral of care by so many patients over the past 18 months related to COVID-19. The recent surge in COVID-19 cases has contributed only a small portion of this increase in New England, thanks to high vaccination rates and the effectiveness of the vaccines in preventing serious illness.

Unprecedented demand for **procedural and acute mental and behavioral health services**.

Unprecedented. In other words, it's never happened before.

Here's the thing. **A Spirit of Fear is a SPIRITUAL PROBLEM.** It's not a **medical** problem. It's not a **biological** problem. It's not a **political** problem. And it's not a **scientific** problem. It's a **spiritual** problem.

If only we had some kind of worldwide organization that was devoted to addressing spiritual problems. We sure could use something like that, for a time like this. Let me know if you think of one.

Christian Theology Teaches That Fear Is a Sin

Jesus told us not to fear *anything*. Ever.

4 ^PRejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. **5** Let your reasonableness ^{*} be known to everyone. ^qThe Lord is at hand; **6** ^rdo not be anxious about anything, ^sbut in everything by prayer and supplication ^twith thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. **7** And ^uthe peace of God, ^vwhich surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:16

So park that idea for a moment. The Spirit of Fear isn't just tearing families and congregations apart. There is a major disconnect between the pulpit and the pew:

WIRE STORY

Evangelicals' Vaccine Skepticism Isn't Coming from the Pulpit

Conservative pastors and leaders are encouraging the shot while the people in the pews have been more divided.

DAVID CRARY - ASSOCIATED PRESS | APRIL 7, 2021 08:54 AM



Image: Tony Gutierrez / AP

Robert Jeffress at First Baptist Church Dallas

The president of the Southern Baptist Convention posted a photo on Facebook last week of him getting the COVID-19 vaccine. It drew more than 1,100 comments—many of them voicing admiration for J. D. Greear, and many others assailing him.

I've already shown you that the vaccines are becoming more questionable by the minute. But a lot of pastors and priests are still pushing the shots from the pulpit. *This is increasing fear, not addressing it.* A lot of your members don't want the shot, don't trust the ungodly people pushing it, and can't get even their most basic questions answered by anyone in authority.

They are coming to the Church for spiritual comfort and leadership — and they aren't getting it.

You want a recipe for making the Church irrelevant? This is it, on steroids. Pastors, I love you, you are my brothers, but if I hear one more sermon about five takeaways from the Book of Joshua while a Spirit of Fear is crushing the Church, I think I might lose my mind.

The pastor is talking about how wandering in the desert compares to my marriage relationship, and I'm looking around the church and seeing people who are terrified they are going to lose their jobs because they won't take the vaccine. Parents who are frantic because they promised their kids there would be no more masks this year and now must break those solemn promises. People with chronic health problems who are terrified the hospitals will stop treating them just because they won't get the jab. Others who are scared because they did get the jab but are now hearing they have to take boosters all the time or they can still catch Covid and die. Which they were *promised* would not happen.

And, meanwhile, just what are pastors telling all those people seeking spiritual counseling and comfort in your church about all those spiritual and practical fears? *Nothing*, that's what. **Why not?** I'm not sure, but I think it's because they're scared too. Scared to take a position. Scared to speak out. The Spirit of Fear is crushing them.

The Church is ASLEEP! WAKE UP!!

Last summer I widely offered to represent any church in my county, for free, to get the churches reopened. Nobody called.

Take a look at the web pages of mainstream Christian magazines. There's nothing helpful about dealing with Covid-19 and the Spirit of Fear. Not one thing.



Image: Illustration by Rick Szucs / Source images: Kym Mckinnon / Unsplash

REVIEWS | INTERVIEW

Getting High Is (Increasingly) Lawful. Is It Ever Beneficial?

A pastor's perspective on recreational and medicinal marijuana

INTERVIEW

AUG 24, 12:53 PM

Some Christian Leaders Advise Parents on COVID-19 Exemptions

Legal experts suggest churches should be cautious about providing documentation to help people get around mask and vaccine rules.

2000-bed community field hospital opens in Les Cayes.

News & Reporting

IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

AUG 26, 6:00 AM

Fate of Lalibela Rock Churches Raises Concerns Among US Ethiopians
TPLF forces have taken control of one of Christianity's oldest heritage sites.

AUG 24, 12:53 PM

Some Christian Leaders Advise Parents on COVID-19 Exemptions
Legal experts suggest churches should be cautious about providing documentation to help people get around mask and vaccine rules.

AUG 24, 8:50 AM

Died: Thomas Nettleton, Defender and Defender of Anglicanism
Pastor and author "The Anglican Way" growing number of evangelicals.

Wow. The top article is about medical marijuana. During a pandemic of fear that is literally killing us and tearing the Church apart. And that one article about Covid saying churches shouldn't write exemption notes isn't too helpful to alleviate terrified members' worries about losing their jobs, is it? I'm guessing reading something like that makes folks *more terrified*.

Great job, Christianity Today.

Here's the one article in the front page of the Christian Post.



TRENDING: AFGHAN REFUGEES CP PODCAST IMMIGRATION TEXAS PASTOR REV. THOMAS MCKENZIE



China: Police arrest 10 kids, 18 adults in raid on church gathering

BY ANUGRAH KUMAR

Police in China raided a small group of Christian worshipers from a heavily-persecuted house church in southwestern China's Sichuan province and arrested almost everyone, including an infant less than 1 year old, nine children and 18 adults.

- House church leader arrested by Chinese authorities on 'spurious' fraud charges
- China: Pastor of heavily-persecuted church hospitalized after attack by communist authorities
- Chinese authorities forcibly detain pastor, wife by chaining door to their home



OnlyFans reverses plan to ban porn after uproar from adult content creators

BY MICHAEL GRYBOSKI

OnlyFans has announced that it's reversing course on a previously promised ban on adult content, following outrage from some accounts on its website that create pornographic content.

Antony Blinken: No more than 1,500 Americans remain in Afghanistan; 4,500 evacuated

BY RYAN FOLEY

With less than a week until the deadline for the withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan, the U.S. State Department estimates that no more than 1,500 Americans seeking to be evacuated remain in the country.



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Olympian Sydney McLaughlin shares tearful video, says critics reject 'the Jesus living in me'



Supreme Court rejects Biden admin's

There's not even anything about Covid close to the top. You have to scroll down the screen to find it:

VOICE

Navigating cultural challenges in the workplace post-COVID-19

BY WILLIAM VANDERBLOEMEN



You can't fabricate a culture, you can only discover it. When trying to understand your culture, ask this

question: When we are functioning at our very best, what do we do as a team that's common to us, but uncommon to other teams around us?

The "Post-Covid-19 Workplace?" **Post**-covid? Really? Is the Christian Post in a different dimension in the multi-verse? Could they possibly get any *more* disconnected and irrelevant? That's an honest question. We're not post-anything. Not even close. We're just getting started.

The world is on fire! Wake up, Christian Post! Vaccine mandates are erupting worldwide and people don't like it. They are terrified:

France expands COVID-19 health passport as protests against lockdown, vaccine mandates erupt worldwide

By [Emily Wood](#), Christian Post Reporter



A protestor displays an anti-vax placard during a 'Unite For Freedom' march against COVID-19 vaccinations and government lockdown restrictions, in Trafalgar Square, central London, England, on May 29, 2021. | BEN STANSALL/AFP via Getty Images

France's health passports went into effect Monday, just days after thousands took to the streets to protest a mandate that only allows the vaccinated or those who've tested negative for COVID-19 to go to shopping centers, restaurants or board public transportation.

Meanwhile, WHERE IS THE CHURCH?? Oh, churches are being so, so careful to toe the government's line, so they don't get shut down:



Baltimore megachurch closed for alleged COVID violations Sunday

Bryna Zumer - 3/16/2021



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What is Greater Grace?

Greater Grace Church Baltimore is a multi-faceted hub of spiritual activity and vitality.

Depending on your point of contact
you might see any one of her many faces...



© Provided by WBFF Baltimore

BALTIMORE (WBFF) - A Baltimore megachurch was closed for allegedly violating COVID guidelines this Sunday, said the Baltimore City Health Department.

What's the government's advice to the Church?

RELIGION

NIH Director Tells Churches To Do The 'Altruistic, Loving Thing' And Stay Closed

December 3, 2020 · 6:52 PM ET

TOM GJELTEN



4-Minute Listen

+ PLAYLIST



Why is the Church scared of these ungodly men?

Why? That's not what our Savior said we should be:

ESV Mat 10:26-42 ▾

Have No Fear

²⁶ “So have no fear of them, ⁱfor nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. ²⁷ What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on ^jthe housetops. ²⁸ And ^kdo not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him ^lwho can destroy both soul and body in hell. ¹ ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? ¹ And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ But ^meven the hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ Fear not, therefore; ⁿyou are of more value than many sparrows. ³² ^oSo everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, ³³ but ^pwhoever denies me before men, ^qI also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

DO NOT FEAR THOSE WHO CAN KILL THE BODY. FEAR HIM WHO CAN DESTROY BOTH SOUL AND BODY IN HELL. Come on, Pastors! Wake up! Stop fearing and cow-towing to these petty dictators!

You might be thinking, but what SHOULD I be doing? I'm glad you asked.

What Should Pastors With Guts Be Doing?

We need our pastors and priests to get some guts. There might not be a lot of time left. It feels like we're in the last five minutes of the fourth quarter, and we just realized that we were playing football.

Have you seen all these great Youtube videos of moms, down at the school board, tearing those officials a new one?



Now, that is some entertaining YouTube right there, am I right? Good stuff.

But here's my first question: **Where are the MEN?**

Yeah. They're nowhere to be seen. Why? Because they're *afraid*. If they stand up and stand out, they'll get cancelled, fired, shamed.

Okay. Here's my next question: **Where are these moms' brothers and sisters from the church?** Why aren't their brothers and sisters down there at the School Board supporting these moms? Huh. I guess we don't support each other anymore. My bad.

My last, and most important, question: **WHERE ARE THE PASTORS??**

Pastors, why aren't **YOU** down there at the school board supporting your moms? I thought the kids were the future of the Church and all that? Or is that just a marketing slogan? You want the kids to come to the Church, but you won't go down to the school board and fight for them. Does that seem fair to you?

How about Critical Race Theory, pastor? They are teaching kids that the Church is racist. Do you have any problem with that? Do you think it is good? Just? Virtuous? Do you think things are going to work out well for the Church if that goes on for very long? Are you waiting for the women to fix it for you?

Pastor, I love you, but you have **lost your way**. Your flock is wandering in the forest.

Okay. That was some tough love. What does *finding your way* look like?

First, Churches MUST Start Dealing with Covid

We have to start fighting the Spirit of Fear. The Spirit of Fear has to be vanquished from the Church before it can be defeated in the World. You must start at home. You have to *immediately* start talking about these issues and pointing out the ungodliness and the fearful spirits and **encouraging people** and bringing your people together.

You have to start leading.

I know, I know. But Jeff, you ask, how do I know what to say? There's so much misinformation out there. How do I know what is right and what is wrong?

Pastor, I don't know what to tell you. *If only there were some kind of omniscient source of wisdom somewhere that we could tap into.* That would be helpful, right? Let's look around, and see if we can come up with something.

The Church must immediately become relevant.

The only thing people are thinking about right now is **Covid**. All the problems I've already named plus unimaginable fears about what's coming next. And that's all you should be talking about, too. All the time. Every day. Until this thing is over. They need to be told not to fear. And they need to be told **how** not to fear.

But Jeff, you say, I only have them for a few hours on Sunday. Then the world gets them the rest of the time. So I feel like it's hopeless, there's nothing I can do.

Pastor, PLEASE. That's the Spirit of Fear talking. You still aren't getting the idea, are you? *If you'll go down to the School Board and deliver a fiery sermon, someone will record it, and you'll be on YouTube and get a MILLION VIEWS.* You have to get out of the Church. Go to where the people are. You've never had a better opportunity, not ever.

GET OUT OF THE SAFE COMFY CHURCH! GET INTO THE WORLD! DO IT NOW! You have to start **publicly** pushing back against government overreach, ungodly men, evil, and attacks on people's freedoms. Why? If you can't think of a godly reason, how about self-preservation? Once the other freedoms are lost, what do you think will happen to religious freedom? They've already shown they are willing to shut your Church and leave the bars, marijuana dispensaries, and strip clubs open. Fight it now before it gets any stronger.

Pastor, what exactly are you waiting for? An invitation? A sign? **THIS** is your sign. **THIS** is the message you've been waiting for. Now stop waiting, and start acting. God has given you pastors the greatest shield and talent that he's ever given any ordinary class of human beings.

**FOR GOD
HAS NOT GIVEN ME
A SPIRIT OF FEAR
BUT OF ^{POWER} AND
OF LOVE AND OF
A SOUND MIND**

2 TIMOTHY 1:7

People — critics— say about me, all the time, “don’t listen to that guy. *He’s just a lawyer.*” So let me talk to you as a lawyer.

You are protected by the First Amendment of the Constitution better than *any other citizen*. There are more 9–0 Supreme Court decisions in favor of religious liberty than *any other issue*. They will come for you last. You can say just about anything with impunity. They can't officially touch you. They might send thugs to threaten and intimidate you, but if many of you are activated, they won't bother. And if you organize your church, you can resist the thugs anyway. That strategy only works to silence the one or two vocal pastors who pop up here and there. If there is a large group, there's no point to it.

So, pastor, what are you doing with this awesome First Amendment talent that God has bestowed on you for a time such as this? I'll tell you what you've done with it. You've sealed it in a mason jar, hidden the mason jar in a bushel basket, and buried the bushel basket under the olive groves.

Now, good and faithful servant, what will you tell your Creator on that glorious day when He asks for an accounting of how you used the talents that He gave you? I sure hope you'll have dug them up and put them to work by then.

Pastor, we are in a war. It's here. It's in our cities, our neighborhoods, and our churches. **You are a wartime pastor.** Start acting like one. What were good and faithful pastors doing in World War I? In World War II? There were lots of people dying during those wars. Did we give up? Hunker down. No. We attacked the enemy head-on, no matter the cost.

The enemy is the Spirit of Fear.

You should be organizing your churches. Get EVERYONE down to the school board meeting, the county commission meeting, the city council meeting. Get your folks to start working together! Lead them!

Start getting ready for what *everyone* can see is coming. The time for churches to provide widespread medical care is nearly here. Unvaccinated people won't be able to be treated at the hospitals. They won't even be let in the front door. *It is already happening.* The **Church** will have to take care of them. Are you ready for that?

Your members are going to be fired from their jobs. They may have trouble finding any gainful employment. They'll need help. A kind of help you haven't ever dealt with before. And there will be a lot of them.

You are going to be feeding people who will be cut off from food, for one reason or another. Community is going to become a life-and-death issue. Don't wait for it to get here. Start

getting ready **now**.

You **must** start calling out evil and ungodliness wherever it appears. And it's all over the place. It's a target-rich environment. You saw what happened in Afghanistan. What's happening over here is Afghanistan on steriods. The same ungodly people who orchestrated the Afghanistan debacle are in charge of the pandemic.

And **please** stop calling deaths from Covid in your Church a "tragedy." That is heretical. Christians don't believe death is a tragedy. Death has been defeated. We celebrate when our brothers and sisters go to their reward, when their time of suffering in this vale of tears is over. It is NOT a tragedy. That is the Spirit of Fear talking.

I leave you with this, two scriptures from the Book of Revelation.

Revelation 21:8

But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.

The cowardly are **first** in the list to be thrown in the the lake of fire. Don't get me wrong — I'm not calling you a coward. I'm showing you that even in the end times He wants us to fight, to be our best and bravest selves. Better to die in this world than experience the fate reserved for cowards. God doesn't want us to be cowardly, even if these *are* the end times.

And, speaking of the end times, there is another heresy to address. Some Christians think that the World is coming to an end, so we can just sit back and wait to be delivered from it, and watch the show. But not so fast:

To the Church in Sardis

3 ¹“And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: ‘The words of him ⁱwho has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.

“I know your works. You have the reputation ^jof being alive, ^kbut you are dead. ²Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works ^lcomplete in the sight of my God. ³^mRemember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, ⁿI will come ^olike a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you. ⁴Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not ^psoiled their garments, and they will walk with me ^qin white, for they are ^rworthy. ⁵^sThe one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never ^tblot his name out of ^uthe book of life. ^vI will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. ⁶^pHe who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’

WAKE UP!!! Strengthen what remains! Some will fall away, but some, a few, have not soiled their garments! God's not finished with the Church yet! Wake up, as you have been commanded! Do it RIGHT NOW.

I have a live version of this presentation that I give to groups of pastors. If you've read down this far, then you know that this is a critical message. Get me a group of pastors of any size and I will present the message to them on Zoom. For a big group I will do it live. I'll move whatever I have to move in my schedule to do it.

Epilogue

For my whole life, I've been troubled by the image of the Lord spitting out the lukewarm church. How could I be *not* lukewarm? What does that even mean? What do I have to do? Do I have to go become a missionary in Africa? Do I have to hold a sign on the street in New Orleans?

I don't worry about being lukewarm any more. I am ready to talk to Him now, about all my adventures on His mission. It's done. I have a feeling of peace and comfort that surpasses all understanding.

And it's because last year I got into the crosshairs, just as He was directing me, in spite of all my fears and anxieties. I've never been a public figure, not ever. But I put it all on the altar. And He has blessed me beyond imagination and given me this platform.

Pastor, this is *your* time. This is *your* chance. It's the best opportunity in our entire lives to be *not lukewarm*. You are a wartime pastor and I hope that you, like me, will rise and answer the call.

Yours in faith,

Jeff Childers, August 2021

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BrianforFloridaRights Sep 3

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