

## Engage

Thursday 18 February 2021

# God, COVID-19 and us

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*Thinking Christianly about the pandemic*

Over the next few studies we will be looking at our response to the COVID-19 pandemic and how, as followers of Christ, we respond. As a framework for our thoughts we will be using Tom Wright's book, *God and the Pandemic* (SPCK, 2020). For a brief introduction see  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F7IToM-hFEo> or, if you have a bit more time,  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mqV8igW9COg&t=237s>.

## Where to start?

**Read Psalms 44:17-22; 88:3-5, 14f, 18**

1. Reflect on where you were when you first heard about COVID-19. What was your first reaction? How has your prayer life changed since the onset of COVID-19?
2. Describe your own response to the COVID crisis. Can you think of at least two Bible passages to illustrate how you, as a follower of Christ, are responding to the crisis.
3. Does it bother you that God does not always reward the righteous and punish the wicked? Do passages like Psalm 44 and 88 make you uncomfortable about how you see God? Do these passages help you to have confidence in God? Why or why not?
4. Why do you think that we often look for resolutions to theological dilemmas? How difficult is it to refrain from jumping to "solutions?" Give a couple specific examples from your life in light of the pandemic. Do you think that those resolutions are healthy in terms of spiritual growth?
5. "Jesus stands between God and humans. He has shown the way through death to renewed life. He has put all things right, and will work that out in the end." (Wright, p13.) What does it mean to you that Jesus stands between God and humans today? How does this look in our current situation? Give a specific example.

Next time: Being Christ-like.