

# 2020-04-11\_c19oh\_klaas\_teboho\_video

Thu, 10/15 3:43PM 6:06

## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

april, worship, opportunity, class, church, talk, whatsapp group, giving, lost, emily, moment, congregation, oral history interview, upper levels, work, principle, midweek bible study, income, contribution, boho

## SPEAKERS

Teboho Klaas, Shonda Nicole Gladden

- S** Shonda Nicole Gladden 00:00  
I'll put it there if you want me to, because it seemed like you wanted to add this.
- T** Teboho Klaas 00:04  
The, the, the congregation, that I pastor has over four years now being have multiple opportunities of worship, which on a Sunday, at least twice there's been a planning now to look at another third opportunity of worship. And COVID comes in at the time when we conduct discussing all of that. What we have now lost is not just the for now, between between March and April, we've lost what we've always had, which is opportunities of worship on Sunday. We have lost our Wednesday midweek Bible study sessions. But we've also lost what we would have endeared as another opportunity created for people who work on Sundays, because we're intending to have the third opportunity of worship on Sunday evenings. So at the moment for the past one for this month, which is the entire, it's like in the calendar, April never existed.
- S** Shonda Nicole Gladden 01:31  
I'm curious, is that a loss purely of the gathering? Or is that also an economic loss?

T

Teboho Klaas 01:38

Well, that aired also, it's also economic. Yeah, the last time we've had people giving, because our challenge is people here are giving cash, they bring it to spaces of worship. So this is not what we, we're not having income currently, since April began, the church does not have income. And so we've lost that. So we've not only lost what you were thinking was going to be a new initiative of a new opportunity to worship. But since the middle of March all this way, we have lost. I mean, not personally, because of the congregation I'm pastoring. Fortunately, over the last five years of being a pastor in this church, eh, one of the things, we've used the principle of 5% savings, quarterly of the total income, the church gets. So that principle of five caught on a quarterly basis, and now is beginning to work for us. In a sense that if, if, we have a lockdown that gets extended beyond April, I'm worried. But for now, I'm not worried because we would be able to go to the reserves that we have created. To be able to meet the needs. We've just paid dues for MidYear. And I know Emily does not know the language. But you know, with the higher structures where we give certain things for the church to be able to do work in the upper levels. We've made our congregational contribution to that, without having to remind people please do this. We currently don't have any communication about money with the congregants. No communication, not at all at this moment. We've not asked a cent from them wherever they are. Because people are not as yet. In the, to the I mean, not yet at the level of doing the EFTs into the church. And when COVID found us, we had not yet set up any system of that nature. So we're dependent on people coming into the church yard during worship, or giving through their class leaders if there's anything they wanted to send to the church. And currently, class leaders themselves are locked into their own homes. And the only way we want to talk with people is class leaders using WhatsApp group for their classes. They talk to their members. I engage with class leaders through a group, a WhatsApp group, and in official board, then through the official board, WhatsApp group. And we talk never in our conversation, up to now, have we had a conversation about money?

S

Shonda Nicole Gladden 05:13

Wow.

T

Teboho Klaas 05:15

So we've not asked whether, you know, we've not said to people, please make a contribution and all of that. We have we have not done so. As the only concern is, if it goes beyond April, then we are going to have to.



Shonda Nicole Gladden 05:36

Well, again, thank you. As we were giving closing remarks, we heard you said that this was something you hoped to have captured in the history interviews, so I will have this added to the April 11 2020 oral history interview with Rev. Teboho Klaas, and Emily Lieserson, and myself. Thank you again, I'm ending the recording officially.



Teboho Klaas 06:02

Thank you.