

Dr. Greg Neal

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PASTORS WEBINAR ON BROADCASTING FROM HOME

March 25, 2020 By Andrew Forrest In Coronavirus

The following is a handout I prepared to present at a webinar for pastors about how to broadcast worship from home. The webinar was free, so the participants definitely got what they paid for from me!

Best Practices for Leading Worship from Home in a Time of Quarantine

I am broadcasting worship live from home on Sundays.

Our music director is also broadcasting from her home piano earlier on Sundays.

It is exhausting!

Key Takeaways

- Clarity, Consistency, and Intimacy Beat Excellence
- Rehearse Everything
- Small Improvements Make a Big Difference

Clarity, Consistency, and Intimacy Beat Excellence

None of us has the ability to produce television-level worship services from home. That's okay! We're doing our best to serve our people in this time.

Pick a video platform that offers audio/visual clarity. It may not be the perfect platform, but if folks can hear and see, then it's good enough. At Munger, we have decided to use Facebook Live. It's not perfect, but so far it's been good enough.

Make a plan to broadcast from home, and then keep it consistent. Create a broadcast studio at home, from which you always go online.

I made the decision that the intimacy that's gained from broadcasting from home—as well as broadcasting live!—gained more with our folks than doing something perfectly produced. My thought is that our emotional connection with our folks is what they most need from us right now.

A quick word on going live: I think the downsides of going live (and there are many) are worth the upside of the sense of immediacy and connection live broadcasts bring.

Rehearse Everything

This point cannot be overstated! Do nothing without rehearsing beforehand, particularly several times.

None of us is any good at this before we start practicing. I scheduled multiple live rehearsals before our first Sunday doing the livestream, and there were lots of subsequent improvements that we made as a result.

Small Improvements Make a Big Difference

Don't worry about perfection—just try to make some small improvements each time you go live.

Some ideas:

- How can you improve lighting? Should you order some video lights?
- How can you improve sound? Should you record with a mic?
- Do you have a tripod for your phone?
- Are you wearing simple colors that look good on video?

Here's What We're Using:

- Facebook Live, through the Munger Place Church FB page.
- We embed that code on our church's site: www.mungerplace.org
- Folks watch on Facebook or on the church site.
- 13 in. Macbook Pro
- iPhone XS Max
- iPhone X
- Shure Portable Videography Bundle with SE215 Earphones and MV88+ Video Kit including Digital Stereo Condenser Microphone
- Professional Grade Lavalier Lapel Microphone Omnidirectional Mic with Easy Clip On System
- Neewer 700W Octagon Softbox Continuous Lighting Kit
- I set my phone on a tripod on a ladder on my home desk, and record standing up!

Andrew Forrest

Munger Place Church

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My blog: www.andrewforrest.org

Practice everything – Rehearse everything – Run through before

Sound is important

Lighting

From Kevin to Everyone: 01:15 PM

About how much does having a YouTube account cost?

From David Lessner to Everyone: 01:15 PM

it's free

From Jonathan Perry to Everyone: 01:17 PM

This app/service lets you do Multicam live-streaming using iPhones/iPads. It is \$40/mo and streams to Facebook live and other locations. <https://www.switcherstudio.com>

From sarahroberts to Everyone: 01:18 PM

Switcher Studio is doing a sale right now too!

From Adam Young to Everyone: 01:18 PM

I'm trying to figure out if Church Online Platform is a good option and if it would work with YouTube

From Jacob Fields to Everyone: 01:18 PM

Thanks for that info Jonathan - We do a multi camera set up through OBS

From Adam Young to Everyone: 01:19 PM

we're using OBS right now too
just one camera though

From DrGregNeal to Everyone: 01:20 PM

It's VERY difficult to preach with very few people present ... you have to exercise your imagination and remember that the congregation is either watching right then, or will be watching in the future.

From mclay to Everyone: 01:20 PM

I love that! Audience of ONE!!!

From Kyle Powell to Everyone: 01:20 PM

You can still use OBS with multiple cameras as well.

From Charles Boampong to Everyone: 01:20 PM

can you stream live on YouTube even with less than 1000 followers?

From DrGregNeal to Everyone: 01:21 PM

OBS is an excellent tool for using multiple cameras for live streaming.

From Peter McNabb to Everyone: 01:21 PM

Monya, when you say you do FB Live and Live Stream, I am not following you. That's 2 different things?

From Kyle Powell to Everyone: 01:21 PM

Live stream via mobile is not available for YouTube with under 1000 followers.

From Kyle Powell to Everyone: 01:21 PM

You can live stream via youtube from a laptop or desktop though through OBS.

From DrGregNeal to Everyone: 01:21 PM

I didn't know that you can't livestream on YouTube with less than 1000 followers ... I'm sorry to hear that.

From Jacob Fields to Everyone: 01:21 PM

You can live stream to YouTube with less than 1000 if its from a computer.

From Me to Everyone: 01:21 PM

Is the Tricaster an app or a special sound board?

From johnkay to Everyone: 01:22 PM

What is OBS?

From Jacob Fields to Everyone: 01:22 PM

OBS stands for Open Broadcast Software - its a type of free software that helps you manage your video feed before it goes to the internet

From Jacob Fields to Everyone: 01:23 PM

I recommend using Streamlabs OBS as it puts less demand on your computer and is simpler to use

From Kyle Powell to Everyone: 01:23 PM

And OBS utilizes stream keys to stream to multiple different platforms.

From Adam Young to Everyone: 01:23 PM

So OBS will stream to Facebook and YouTube at the same time?

I need to figure that out

From Jacob Fields to Everyone: 01:23 PM

If your using Streamlabs OBS you can do both FB and YouTube at the same time

From Kyle Powell to Everyone: 01:24 PM

I don't think you can stream to multiple sites at the same time.

From Jacob Fields to Everyone: 01:24 PM

<https://streamlabs.com/>

From Jonathan Perry to Everyone: 01:24 PM

We stream to Facebook/YouTube simultaneously. Some services allow that.

From JD Allen to Everyone: 01:25 PM

At Chapel Hill, we stream to Facebook and YouTube simultaneously.

From Joshua Manning to Everyone: 01:25 PM

Audio quality is super important. Thanks for highlighting that Andrew.

From Freddie Orr to Everyone: 01:25 PM

Is there a streaming platform we can use that basically all can pull up on the net. Most of my members are not on Facebook. I have a older membership. So Facebook Live does not hit enough people. Most of them could connect to the internet.

From Adam Young to Everyone: 01:25 PM

JD what platform are you using?

From Jonathan Perry to Everyone: 01:25 PM

Definitely, folks will tolerate low quality video as long as the audio is good

From David Lessner to Everyone: 01:26 PM

You can access a facebook page without an account as long as you give them the link to click in

From Adam Young to Everyone: 01:26 PM

you can access YouTube without an account as well

From DrGregNeal to Everyone: 01:26 PM

David is correct ... all you need to do is give people who don't have an account a direct link to your page.

From Cheryl Murray to Everyone: 01:27 PM

When do you get a link to share? Right before you go live or ahead of time?

From Adam Young to Everyone: 01:27 PM

for YouTube, I sent out the link to our channel the day before

From David Lessner to Everyone: 01:27 PM

As many times as you can share the link before and right before :)

From Preston Reid to Everyone: 01:27 PM

Youtube, IBM (UStream), Vimeo/LiveStream, BoxCast are other options besides Facebook. Not all free though.

From David Lessner to Everyone: 01:27 PM

another option for camera and streaming you should look at is MEVO
mevo.com

From Preston Reid to Everyone: 01:28 PM

Yeah Mevo is a good option too

From Kevin to Everyone: 01:28 PM

Can you show us those lights?

From Peter McNabb to Everyone: 01:28 PM

Freddie, if you use 2 phones, you can have one devoted to Facebook Live and one devoted to YouTube. Your members who are not on Facebook can watch the one on YouTube. You can also post the YouTube link to your Northgate UMC website or just email it out in your electronic newsletter. Peter

From JD Allen to Everyone: 01:28 PM

We email links to Facebook and YouTube to our members and post it on Facebook. We follow that with and email to the link of the service for people who miss or cannot figure out the livestream.

From Jonathan Perry to Everyone: 01:28 PM

A service that OakLawn used last week to have multiple people in remote locations on one stream is called <https://streamyard.com/>. Its essentially a little production studio (like a broadcast version of Zoom).

From Liliana to Everyone: 01:28 PM

thanks David! yes mevo great!

From Dana Norton to Everyone: 01:28 PM

How are you doing stream from home with your music person also included.

From David Lessner to Everyone: 01:29 PM

we use streamyard.com for our online bible study and it works great for multi-leader discussions

From Jonathan Perry to Everyone: 01:30 PM

Dana — streamyard.com would let you do that. Andrew and Leader did two separate streams I think. We use Mevo at Open too! — you can see the results at [Facebook.com/opendtx/videos](https://www.facebook.com/opendtx/videos)

From Liliana to Everyone: 01:30 PM

Post document online :)

Youtube – Premier – Video is scheduled to come at a Particular time and there is a different back ground.

Aesthetics – Background making the place look Holy

Banners outlining the Lords Prayer

Backdrop – Paintings

Prayers – Lords Prayer

Scroll Ministry Highlights

Jacob Fields – Knowledgeable on Copyright issues

Flex tripod

Phone

Pre-recorded vs live Copyright doesn't matter.

Don't us Youtube Music

+++++

Engaging with the congregation

Interact with the congregation

Pastor interacting with the congregation so that you can interact with comments on FB

Bumps the feed

Everyone is Streaming and it becomes readily available and accessible on FB

Nick McRae

Read out what people are saying – look at the interaction and respond.

Record and Drop on Sunday vs FB Live

Comments on You tube and FB

Preaching to an empty sanctuary takes imagination.

Preaching to the saints is real and God is there

Preaching to an empty sanctuary.

Audience of 1 – Jesus.