



EVERY CHURCH RENEWED

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NAMB
Replant

God's Not Done With Your Church

Because Jesus Has a Plan for Every Church



God's Not Done With Your Church

"Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, **according to the power at work with us**, to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

Ephesians 3:20-21



God's Not Done With Your Church

"Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God."

Psalm 20:7



Spiritual Renewal Over Strategic Renewal



The Sobering Reality

Dramatic Decline

Significant drop in church attendance over the past decade, with many congregations experiencing a 20-30% decrease.

Rise of the "Nones"

The fastest-growing religious demographic in America is those who claim no religious affiliation, doubling since early 2000s.

Church Closures

Between 4,000 and 7,000 churches are estimated to close their doors permanently each year in America.



The Lord's Presence in Every Church

Jesus Has a Specific Plan

He's not in heaven looking down at your church saying, "I don't know what to do with that one". Every church has a future because Jesus has a plan for it.

Christ's Active Presence

The book of Revelation makes it clear that the risen Christ is among the lampstands (Revelation 1:10, 12-13). He is at your congregation, every time you gather corporately.

He's not in the vestibule deciding whether to come in, nor in the parking lot deciding whether to visit; **He is always there.**



Our Responsibility: Recognition

The issue isn't whether Jesus will be there or not; **the issue is, do we recognize Him? Do we hear Him? Do we listen to Him?**

Think of Joshua's encounter at Jericho. He saw a man with a drawn sword and naturally asked, "**Are you for us or for our adversaries?**"

But once Joshua recognized he was speaking to the Lord Himself, his question changed to, "**What does my lord say to his servant?**" (Joshua 5:14).



Jesus Has a Plan for Every Church



Wrong Question

Is Jesus "for" or "against" *our* plans and preferences for the church?



Right Question

What is *His* vision for His church?



Our Response

Come with open hands and humble hearts, ready to follow His leading.

He is the head of the body, the church (Colossians 1:18).



The Pastor's Role: Personal Spiritual Renewal

Spiritual renewal in a renewal pastor or leader isn't going to come as a result of any man-powered method. What we need more is for the Lord to move in power in and through our own hearts.

Top Priority

The most important fundamental in church renewal is the ongoing renewal of your love for Jesus personally.

The Source

We cannot give to others what we do not have ourselves. If we want to see our churches filled with joyful, passionate disciples of Jesus, it begins with us.



The Heart in Ministry

"One of the primary tools we use in Christian ministry is our own hearts. Sometimes our heart is devoted to Jesus and sometimes it is divided. Sometimes our heart finds its joy in Jesus and sometimes it finds its joy elsewhere. Sometimes our heart trusts the Lord and sometimes it trusts in itself."

— Craig Hamilton, *Wisdom in Leadership*





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Falling in Love with Jesus Again

"While programs are not bad, dependence on them is. And if we are not careful, they can easily replace the hard(er) work of living in relationship with the living God who leads us on this journey. There is nothing God wants more for us and nothing we need more than to journey back to the primary, life-giving relationship Jesus desires for us all."

- David Jackson

3 Common Characteristics of Struggling Churches

1

Preferences Over Mission

Prioritizing personal preferences and traditions over adapting to reach the unreached in their community. Resisting necessary changes.

2

Disconnection from Community

Becoming isolated, no longer actively engaging with or understanding the needs of their surrounding community.

3

Building-Centric Focus

Valuing facilities more than ministry to people, spending more resources maintaining buildings than investing in outreach and discipleship.



The Comfort Trap: Church Idolatry

Satan has subtly but drastically led many of us to embrace as an idol "the church as we currently experience it."

⚠ The **true source of stability** we need is found not in the church as we experience it, but in Christ as the resurrected Lord who has promised to never leave us or forsake us.

⊗ "Thus says the LORD: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit." - **Jeremiah 17:5-8**



Three Key Principles for Renewal Strategy



System Design

Your system is perfectly designed for your results. If we want different results, we must be willing to examine and change our systems.



System Attachment

"You can change without improving but you can't improve without changing." Don't become emotionally attached to your current way of doing church.



Catalyst for Change

Real transformation begins when the pain of maintaining the status quo becomes greater than the perceived pain of change.



The Five Fundamentals of Church Renewal



Persistent, Persevering Prayer

Dedicated, focused, and continuous prayer for God's direction and intervention.



Text-Driven Preaching and Teaching

Anchoring in faithful, systematic teaching of God's Word as a foundation for growth.



Strategic, Personal Shepherding

Intentionally caring for the congregation through personal relationships and pastoral care.



Raise Up and Develop Leaders

Identifying, equipping, and empowering new leaders who can carry the mission forward and multiply ministry impact.



Equip People as Missionaries

Training every church member to view themselves as missionaries in their own context, moving from maintenance to mission.

Three Realities That Fuel Passion for Renewal

1 God's People Need Hope

Brothers and sisters in Christ in dying churches desperately need hope and encouragement. They need to know God is not done with them.

2 Lost People Need the Gospel

Dying churches are surrounded by lost and broken people who desperately need the gospel. We need to help churches recapture a passion for the Great Commission.

3 God's Glory Is at Stake

Dying churches rob God of His glory. This reality should be our greatest source of motivation. The key to revitalization is a passion for the glory of God in all things.



God's Not Done With Your Church

In the face of declining statistics, cultural shifts, and unprecedented challenges, remember this fundamental truth: **God is not done with your church.**

Your role isn't to figure everything out or to save the church – that's Jesus' job. Your role is to **recognize His presence, listen to His voice, and follow His leading with courage and faith.**

Every church has a future because Jesus has a plan for every church. Our vision is **Every Church Renewed!**



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