

A decorative graphic featuring a blue-to-purple gradient background. A thick, light blue line starts at the top right, goes left, then down, then left again, and finally curves into a large, sweeping arc that frames the text. Another thick, light blue line starts from the left and curves upwards to meet the main arc. The text is centered within this frame.

Church Shopping Guide

5 KEYS TO FINDING YOUR
NEW CHURCH HOME

Whatever the reason may be, you are in the market for a new church home.

And that likely means you're feeling a wide variety of emotions:

Excitement

Fear

Anxiety

Hope

Uncertainty

Plus, you don't want to be disappointed or for the searching to take too long.

This whole church-shopping process can just be weird.

Where do you begin?!

How do you find the "right church" to call home?

Here are 5 keys to guide you »





Let it Go

Scroll to keep reading 
or jump to

1 2 3 4 5

As the song likely plays in your head, just go ahead and resolve yourself to let it go.

You will not find the perfect church. Period. It does not exist.

You should have a few things that are really important for you, so look for those things and let the rest go.

It's just too easy to find something wrong with every church.

Identify what's most important to you, and then **do the work to discover the answers you need.**

You really just need to settle these two questions:

Can I trust this church?

Can I align with this church?



**Be a
Tourist,
Not a
Spy**

1 2 3 4 5

**We get it.
It can be very
appealing to go
undercover.**

Get in.

Get out.

Don't talk to anyone.

Avoid eye contact at all costs.

Simply put, do not engage!

This approach is all about
covert observation. But,
you'll likely find yourself
criticizing everything.

**It IS an approach,
but that doesn't
make it the
healthier approach.**

Instead, seek to be a tourist,
**intentionally experiencing
all that you can** while there.

Do your best to be fully
present in the moments.

If they have a pathway to
connect as a visitor, take it!

Engage it and see what
happens.



**Go
Back.**

1 2 3 4 5

First impressions are important, but they may not always be accurate.

This isn't a swipe-right process.

If you think about it, it's a bit silly to make an assessment about a church and its people after just one visit.

Have you ever been treated that way? How did you feel about it?

Remember, everyone has bad hair days.

If you're willing,
go multiple times.

Talk to more people.

Ask more questions.

Be curious.

Go back to #3.



Listen.

1 2 3 4 5

How do they talk?

This is actually something you should pay attention to.

Do they speak in lofty, you-need-a-doctorate-to-understand-this language?

Do their words bring life, hope, peace, encouragement, even if convicting?

How do they talk about how God talks about and thinks about you?

Is the emphasis on a select few who are qualified, or is it on empowering everyone?

Words matter.

How words are spoken matters.

Language is a reflection of culture, and the culture of the church matters.



Ask.

1 2 3 4 5

Depending on your confidence in this area, this step may either feel natural or uncomfortable. But you should simply ask God,

**“Where are you planting me?
Is here Your here for me, for us?”**

This process is more about you leaning into where you sense Him placing you.

Be confident, not intimidated.

**Are you willing to give God
permission to let it look
different from what you
had before or might be
expecting?**

You should have the highest
confidence that where He
places you is best for you
AND for that church body!

Okay, so this guide is in no way an exhaustive list, but it is a good jumpstart to help get you going.

We can't wait for you to find your new church home!

**Trust the process.
Lean in.
Be planted.
Bear fruit.**

Let's go  **church shopping!**

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