



**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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