

# Top 5 Questions as You Look For a Church Home

## 1 Are the essentials in place?

What the church believes matters. Does this church believe in the essentials of the faith—those things Christians have believed in all places, at all times? Is the gospel of God's grace through Jesus Christ's life, death, and resurrection the foundation of everything?

## 2 Is this church family being equipped to grow in a relationship with God and live out their faith 24/7?

We are on a hero's journey of faith. One hour a week won't get us or our kids to where God wants us to go. The other 167 hours in the week count. We need mentoring and equipping because the journey is challenging. Does this church recognize that and then take tangible steps to help us on our journey?

## 3 Does this church invest in the next generation (our kids)?

Our kids and teens are not the future; they are the NOW! They can know God personally, grow in a relationship with him, and make an impact for him in their daily lives. Parents, mentors, teachers, coaches, and other influencers aren't simply launching them into adulthood; they are being launched into eternity and into a life on mission for God. Does this church invest all the energy and resources possible to come alongside parents to help them win?

## 4 Is this church family being mobilized to live out the mission of God?

God doesn't custom make his mission for us; we are custom made for God's mission. It's an exciting and meaningful mission. Is this church clear about God's loving mission to the world and serious enough about it to equip and mobilize its people for living on mission daily in all spheres of life, but also in places of great need and suffering?

## 5 Does this church family reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of its community?

Sundays are still the most ethnically and racially segregated day of the week, but eternity will be populated by people from every nation. We need to reflect that more and more now. Part of the reason for the segregation of Sundays is that people tend to prefer worshiping with others that share their culture, including music styles, food, language, and other cultural factors. But churches that value and take practical (and oftentimes difficult) steps toward racial and ethnic diversity will, over time, more closely reflect its community's diversity. Is this church taking steps to address the cultural divide?