



Key Notes

McChurch Realtors. How may we help you?

Hi. We're new to the area and we need help finding a church.

You've called the right number. What are you looking for?

Well, we don't want one of those mega-churches. They are too impersonal and production-driven. We want something more intimate... but of course with multiple service times and lots of ministry options. It must be centrally located with good parking. It needs to be small enough to make friends but large enough where we won't be called on to serve in the nursery.

I see. Are you looking for something traditional or more contemporary?

Oh, we don't want any of that post-modern, trendy, watered-down stuff. We want a traditional church... but in touch with the 21st century. It has to connect to our teenagers. As for music, my wife loves the old hymns. I like Gospel. The kids love contemporary praise music, except Justin, who only listens to rap.

What did you have in mind in terms of preaching?

We want Bible preaching pure and simple. But none of that hell-fire, pulpit-pounding stuff. Sermons should be positive, build one's self-esteem, right? And if he can't finish in 20 minutes, well, we couldn't handle that! Yes, we want Bible preaching... with lots of illustrations, Power-Point and an occasional movie clip for illustrative purposes.

Anything else?

Yes. We don't want one of those right-wing, "fundamentalist" churches. And please don't recommend one of those places where people get emotional. Oh yeah, and don't send us to one of those churches with a wacko social agenda. We just want a good, old-fashioned Bible-believing church that is open to new ideas, affirming of everyone, inclusive and tolerant of those who differ.

Do you prefer a church that is in the tradition of Calvin, Luther, Wesley or the Anabaptists?

Huh?

OK. Let me see if I get this straight. You want a small church with multiple services, one where the Bible is strong yet not taken to an extreme. The style is traditional yet connects with teenagers and is relevant to the culture. The preacher has a Ph.D. in theology but relates well to children. And the services are vibrant but not weird. Is that about it?

You got it! What can you recommend?

A miracle.

Pastor Stan