

P.U.**R**.S.U.E Excellence

Being a Relevant Church: Discovering God's Call to *BE*

Bible Study for April 16, 2020
WORD For Life Church Ministries
Rev. Larrin Robertson, Pastor

Today's objective

To examine Biblical and contemporary models of relevance for a church within its community(-ies).

How can we define relevance as it pertains to a church?

What is our theological foundation for being a relevant church?

What are the hallmarks of a relevant church?




*God is at all times, and in every case, relevant. So too is God's word. The same must be true of God's people. To be relevant, **we must BE** who God formed this church to be where God planted us. Relevance positively impacts the lived experiences of community.*

– Rev. Larrin Robertson



Biblical foundation for a relevant church

The Bible relays the critical need for a relevant church. Simply stated, we are called to be present and to share in experiences in the following ways:

- Bulwark against hell and hellish existence (Matthew 16:15-19)
 - Ensure mutual well-being (Acts 2:42-47)
 - Offer comfort in distress (1 Thessalonians 4:18)
 - Support in weaknesses (Galatians 6:2)
- 

Biblical foundation for a relevant church *(cont'd.)*

Additional biblical ways for a church to be present and share in experiences include:


- Provide avenues for discipleship (1 Thessalonians 5:11)
- Facilitate spiritual growth (Colossians 3:16)
- Outreach orientation (Matthew 25:31-46)



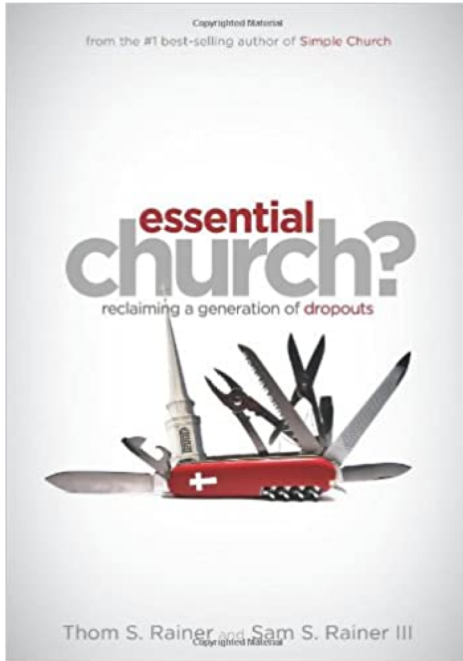
Theology of a relevant church

In light of what the Bible offers for the importance of a relevant church, what can we say concerning the theology of a relevant church?

Let's consider:

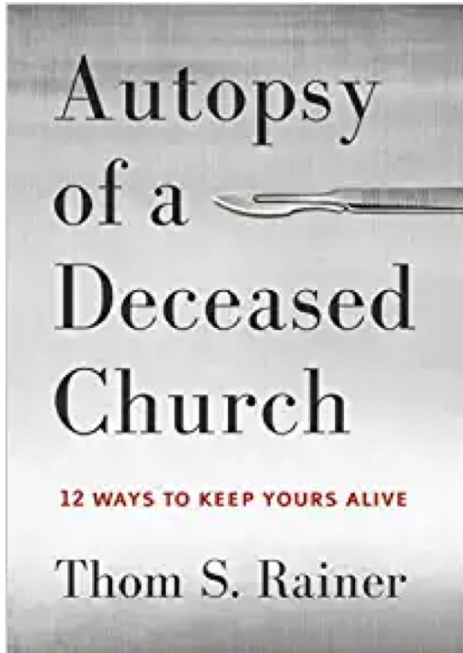
- How does the church portray/represent God in the world?
 - What is God presently doing through the church?
 - What future expectation is there of God?
- 

Hallmarks of a relevant church



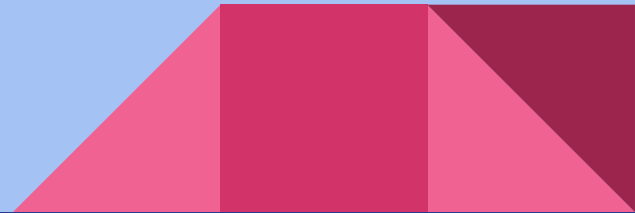
- Simplified structure
- Deepen the content
- Expects results based on faith in action
- Multiplies disciples

Hallmarks of a relevant church *(cont'd.)*



- Steeped in prayer
- Meaningful membership involvement
- Mission-minded money management
- Plans, specifically, to evangelize the community
- Willing to change that leads to action and outward focus
- Partners with community

Questions?



Support WORD For Life Church Ministries

Three ways to continue supporting the work of God through WORD For Life Church Ministries

1. Pray for us
 2. Worship with us Sundays at 11:00 a.m.
 3. Financially support us:
 - a. **Mail**: 11519 Fort Washington Rd., Ft. Washington, MD 20744
 - b. **Online**: wordforlifechurch.org/Online-Giving
 - c. **Text**: "Give2wflcm" and \$amount to 73256
- 