

[Plus 9 Fascinating Facts about Large Churches](#)[View this email in your browser.](#)

Leadership Network *Advance*

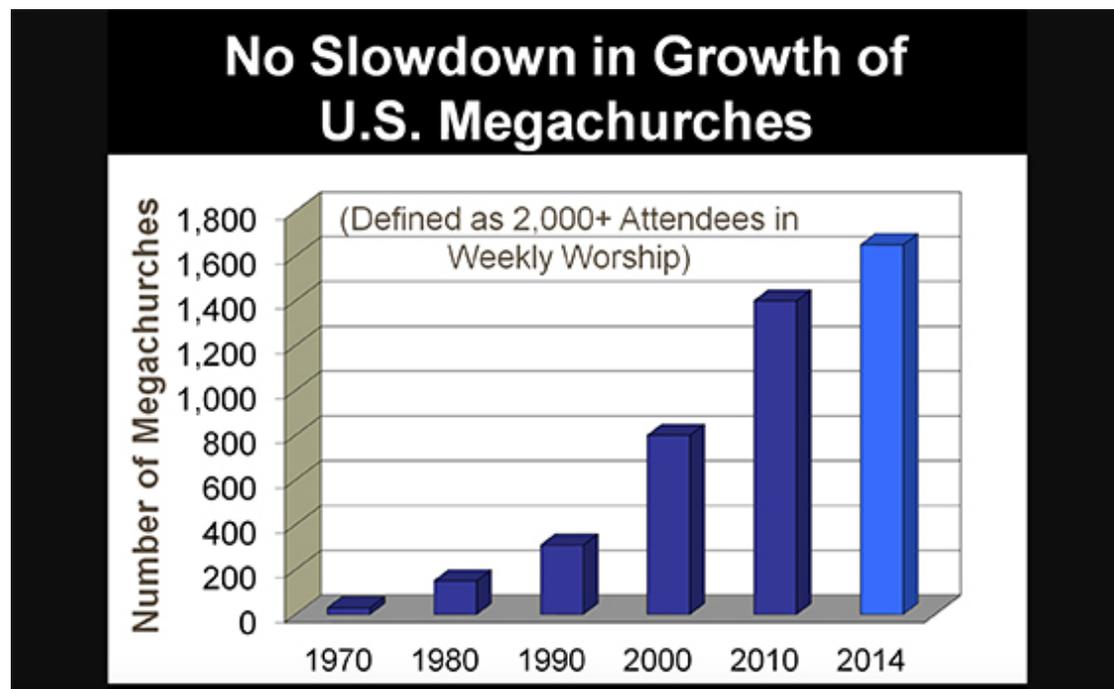
September 5, 2017

Dear Church Leader,

We NEVER try to say that one church size is better than another, but we DO explore the ways each size is different. See our lead story. —Dr. Warren Bird

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9 Fascinating Facts About People Who Attend Megachurches

by Warren Bird

The number of very large churches continues to increase, as our graphic dramatically illustrates. And within that group, the biggest churches continue to get bigger. In the past I've written about everything from sanctuary sizes (very few new ones over 5,000) to the first megachurch (start with Pentecost when "about 3,000" were converted, per Acts 2:41) to global megachurches (Korea and Nigeria are currently leading).

But what about the people who attend really big churches? Fellow researcher Scott Thumma and I surveyed some 25,000 of them, with some fascinating discoveries:

- 1) Nearly two-thirds of attenders have been at these churches 5 years or less.
- 2) Many attenders come from other churches, but nearly a quarter haven't been in any church for a long time before coming to a megachurch.



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How Do Great Churches Develop Their Leaders?

At Leadership Network, we hear this question all the time. Every growing church needs to constantly be identifying and training up leaders. But how? We asked 100 of the country's largest



Stewardship, The Missing Link In Many Discipleship Programs

Standard discipleship programs train new believers in the basics of how to study the Bible, pray and share their faith. But there is another vital building block that may often go missing.

churches this very question: How do you identify and train leaders? Last year's NINES online conference shares their answers and strategies.

In case you missed it, we still have the videos and program book available! You'll need to purchase our **24/7 video access pass** that will allow you to watch all of the videos from the 2016 NINES on-demand (including all of the breakout sessions).

You can purchase a **2016 NINES program guide** that includes notes, speaker bios and contact information, discussion questions and more. **You can purchase both of them at a bundled price!**

"Money is such a big part of our lives; if we don't disciple people in it, then we're by default saying the Lordship of Jesus doesn't permeate the most basic parts of their lives," says Dr. Bobby Harrington, senior pastor of Harpeth Christian Church in Franklin, TN. "We have to teach people how to deal with their money in godly ways, or we aren't discipling."

In his church and in his work as Executive Director of national disciple-making organization Discipleship.org, Bobby makes sure financial stewardship is always part of the discipleship package.



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