




**You Might Be More
“Emergent” Than You
Think!**



What does it look like for the Church to live out its mission among a particular people in a particular place?



How will people in a given culture best understand Jesus?



How can we most effectively live and interpret the teaching of Jesus for people today?

- If you think the church should continue to wrestle with these questions, you are an Emergent leader!

Wikipedia definition...

- Emergent movement or emergent conversation seeks to deconstruct and reconstruct Christianity for a post-modern culture.

Nine Practices of Emergent Churches

 Identify with the life of Jesus

 Transform the secular realm

 Live communal lives

Nine Practices of Emerging Churches (Cont.)

 Welcome the stranger.

 Serve with generosity.

 Participate as producers.

Nine Practices of Emerging Churches (Cont.)

 Create as created beings.

 Lead as a body.

 Take part in spiritual activities.

**Emerging Churches:
Creating Christian
Community
in Postmodern Culture**

Eddie Gibbs and Ryan Bolger

Themes of the Emergent Church

Mission Trumps Everything Else!

- ◆ Missional and church are used in the same sentence—Mission is not a subset.
- ◆ Salvation—a life to be lived here and now that presents a radical challenge to the materialistic values of our culture.

- ◆ Church—To be and make disciples of Jesus Christ in authentic community for the good of the world—Show the world what it looks like when a community of people live under the reign of God.

- ◆ Mission—The redemptive activity of God in the world toward humanity.

Contextualization is Championed

- Church must relate constantly and dynamically to the Gospel
- What does it look like to be the church in this place at this time?

- A concern for finding a way to be conversant in the language and customs of the surrounding culture and living toward the language and ethics of the Gospel.

Global Consciousness

- Glocal is a new term.
- Jerusalem and the uttermost parts of the earth is connected.
- Concern over trafficking in Thailand is connected to social justice in our own schools.

- Hierarchy, organizational power and great strategies are met with suspicion as are military metaphors.
- Relationship and stories about God working through the underdog are preferred.

Bottom Line

- Substance trumps slick.
- Relationship trumps organization.
- Action trumps performance.
- Listening is the pathway to trust.
- Trust is the currency of relationship
- Relationship is central to the DNA of the emergent
- Mission is the biblical theme that predominates.