



book review

title: Comeback Churches

author: Ed Stetzer and Mike Dodson

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reviewed by: Jeff Hiller

In *Comeback Churches*, Ed Stetzer and Mike Dodson silence the voices of the doom and gloom prophets of the North American church. This book offers insights into the principles used by leaders to shift churches from decline or maintenance mode into growing healthy entities. The principles offered are from over 300 churches of various size, location, and style. While this book does not focus on new concepts, it does offer focal points for prioritizing areas of attention for churches desiring to grow. Each principle is supported with statistical analysis, testimonials and creative approaches.

This may be one of the best books I have yet to read regarding the potential transformation of the church. Stetzer and Dodson offer brilliant insights into the basics of “doing” church and remind leaders about what really matters. The testimonials provide proof of what can occur when these basics are attended to, inspiring leaders to rekindle faith in what the church can be. After reading this book, it is easy to identify the “whys” of church decline and stagnation – and it is just as easy to see which steps are most needed for turn around.

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