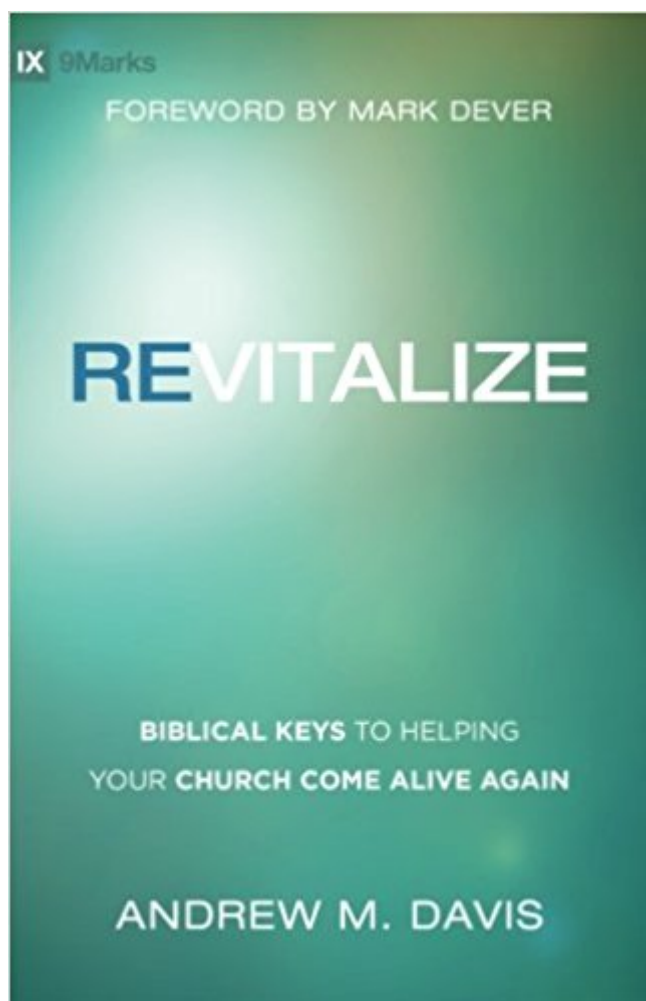


The book was found

Revitalize: Biblical Keys To Helping Your Church Come Alive Again



Synopsis

Church health is measured by more than just numbers, but declining membership is often a key symptom of a church in crisis. The pastor of a dying church doesn't need to be told it is dying; he needs to find the way forward--and he needs hope. Author and pastor Andrew Davis offers readers the lessons he's learned in his own journey of leading church transformation, including- keeping Christ's ownership of the church central- being humble- choosing your battles wisely- empowering godly men to join in leadership- making prayer a priority- focusing on the Word- and more. Church decline is not inevitable. *Revitalize* gives pastors the spiritual support they long for and the practical advice they need to turn their churches around and position them for greater health in the future.

Book Information

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Baker Books (April 4, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 080100750X

ISBN-13: 978-0801007507

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 18 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #129,005 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #65 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Churches & Church Leadership > Ecclesiology #80 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Churches & Church Leadership > Church Growth #202 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Churches & Church Leadership > Church Leadership

Customer Reviews

"I can't recall ever making this statement about a book: church leaders need this."--Thom S. Rainer, president and CEO, LifeWay Christian Resources

Church health is measured by more than just numbers, but declining membership is often a key symptom of a church in crisis. Drawing on lessons he's learned in his own journey of leading church transformation, pastor Andrew Davis offers strategic, proven, and biblically grounded advice on how to move forward with hope and expectation. He shows pastors the importance of- keeping Christ's ownership of the church central- maintaining a humble attitude- choosing your battles wisely- empowering godly men to join in leadership- making prayer a priority- focusing on the Word- and much more. *Revitalize* gives pastors the spiritual support they long for and the practical advice they need to turn their churches around

and position them for greater health in the future."Andy Davis has spent years in revitalization work, and in this book he makes what he has learned accessible to others. IÂ welcome this solid new contribution to the growing literature on helping churchesÂ 'come alive again.'"--Tim Keller, founding pastor, Redeemer PresbyterianÂ Church, NewÂ York City"Andy Davis is a pastor who truly knows what it means to see God revitalize a church through the power of his Word. Pastors, no matter how experienced or inexperienced, need to read this book."--R. Albert Mohler Jr., president, Southern Baptist Theological SeminaryAndrew M. Davis is pastor of First Baptist Church of Durham, North Carolina, and a visiting professor of church history at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Chairman of the governance committee of the Gospel Coalition, Davis has written articles for TGC's popular website and has spoken in plenary and breakout sessions at TGC's national conference. He is the author of *An Infinite Journey*, named by Tim Challies as one of the top ten books of 2014.

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If you are in ministry as an full time pastor, lay elder, or concerned church member, take these words into consideration for your church. Davis does an amazing job at explaining his own experiences of revitalizing his church while supporting his actions biblically. My only concern is that the book does not go into any specifics on how to deal with church discipline and the author does not provide any personal examples as to how it was received. This book is easy to read and easy to follow. I was convicted from the teachings in this book and I hope you will be too.

This is a great book for church leaders. It offers great insides and practical applications for church revitalization. Dr. Davis writes from his own experiences at FBC Durham. Dr. Davis views on the role of women in the church maybe contradicted to your views. The area of church discipline he did not expand a lot and he did not offer any examples on how that was received by the church. Easy to read. Short chapters.

power statement on the revitalization of the local church

Just starting the book but am gaining valuable definitions of health vs "sick" immediately in the first chapter.

"Revitalize" by Andrew Davis is a great read for a pastor or layperson who wants to see God bring life back into a church. The writer is a pastor and has around 20 years of experience at a local church and has seen God do amazing things throughout the years. In a day where people leave a church over frivolous issues and where church planting is sometimes overemphasized, it is refreshing to see a challenge to be faithful to God and "bloom where you are planted". The book is just over 200 pages and addresses issues such as: 1. 11 marks of a dying church. 2. Revitalization will come only through God's power and not a self-willed leader. 3. True encounters with God involves both pleasure and terror. 4. 2 effects of Spirit-led prayer. 5. Major themes of a godly vision (hint: not something that you "dream up" by listening to what God wants to do in and through you). 6. 10 reasons to be humble towards your opponents. 7. No church will be revitalized without courage. 8. Allow God time to work in His church. 9. Discouragement is probably the devil's greatest and most effective weapon. 10. 12 key concepts that need to be communicated. The title is very readable, insightful, and smoothly transitions from topic to topic. Will be an excellent reference as I am involved in two local churches. Recommended. I was given a review copy by Baker Publishing in exchange for a fair review.

I first heard of Andrew Davis about 8 years ago when I stumbled across his guide to extended Scripture memory. I knew very little of him then, but I was greatly helped by this excellent resource. Then, a few years ago, I read Davis's book on discipleship and sanctification "An Infinite Journey". After greatly enjoying this book, I decided to learn a bit more about the man. WHO IS ANDREW DAVIS? Davis is the pastor of First Baptist Church of Durham, NC, a church that he has now pastored for almost 20 years. Though FBC Durham is currently a healthy and vibrant church, this was not always the case. In fact, when Davis accepted the call to pastor FBC Durham in 1998, the congregation was far from healthy. How did this church move from point A to point B? How did God use Andrew Davis to bring life and revitalization into a dying congregation? A NEW BOOK That story, and the principles learned, is the subject of Davis's newest book: Revitalize: Biblical Keys to Helping Your Church Come Alive Again. Through the experiences and lessons learned by Davis over the last 20 years, God has given him a heart for churches, church leaders, and pastors who are in need of biblical help and practical resources in revitalizing a dying church. After a couple of introductory chapters stressing the importance of the local church and the

care that Christ has for the health and vitality of His church, Davis dives right into 14 lessons that he sees as essential (and biblical) in any church revitalization:

1. Embrace Christ's Ownership of the Church
2. Be Holy
3. Rely on God, Not on Yourself
4. Rely on God's Word, Not on Techniques
5. Saturate the Church in Prayer
6. Cast a Clear Vision
7. Be Humble toward Opponents
8. Be Courageous
9. Be Patient
10. Be Discerning
11. Wage War against Discouragement
12. Develop and Establish Men as Leaders
13. Become Supple on Worship
14. Embrace the Two Journeys of Disciple-Making

In every one of these 14 chapters, each focusing on a different essential of church revitalization, Davis gives biblical support, practical suggestions, and personal illustrations of how He learned this principle in his time at FBC Durham. In each of these chapters, you will find biblically and theologically sound practical challenges and advice as it relates to church revitalization.

WHY I LOVE THIS BOOK

In his foreword to the book, Mark Dever gives several reasons for why he likes this book. I couldn't agree more, nor could I articulate it as well as Dever, so here are his reasons:-

- This book exalts God-
- This book is biblically and theologically sound and historically informed-
- This book is instructive-
- This book's author understands both what the gospel is and what a church is-
- This book is practical-
- This book will help pastors

Amen and Amen.

CONCLUSION

If you are a pastor, church leader, elder, training for ministry, or a member of a church in need of revitalization, you will find this book to be an excellent and indispensable resource for the task that lay ahead of you. Though I do not have the privilege of knowing Andrew Davis personally, I am incredibly thankful for him and how the Lord has chosen to use him for His glory through the revitalization of FBC Durham. Now, through this resource, Davis has given the Church a wonderful resource to help pastors and churches across the country and the world turn to God and His Word for the health of their local church in order to bring glory and honor to the head of the church "Jesus Christ.

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 From Surviving to Thriving: A Practical Guide to Revitalize Your Church
 Sailboat Church: Helping Your Church Rethink Its Mission and Practice
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