

Marks of a Walmart Style Church

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1. Centered more than bounded. Open to people many miles away, as contrasted with a church that limits outreach efforts to its traditional parish or field, about three miles each direction.
2. Purpose or Vision Driven
The sense that what we are doing here is very important.
3. Offers a broad set of ministries that appeal to the majority of people dwelling within a 30 minute drive of the meeting place.
4. These ministries provide many “open doors” for people to come into the life of the church.
5. Allows for levels of involvement, at least in beginning, but exerts influence for and opportunity to move toward the center and intense involvement.
6. Appealing worship services. Typically, “the best show in town”.
7. Good, accessible facilities.
8. A good staff which is both competent and available.
9. Members who are proud and pleased with what the church does. Expressed in real excitement about “our” church.
10. Often, there is a core of laypersons who are committed to the vision and provide generous financial support.
11. An openness to try new things without being judgmental when they do not prove to be all that had been hoped.
12. The senior pastor is respected as a true “man of God”. Good character, spiritual, faithful.
13. Relational concerns are centered in the many small groups of ministries and programs, as contrasted with being a “family” church.
14. Pervaded by the sense that progress toward achieving the vision is being made. Victories are identified and celebrated.
15. Usually exercises considerable moral influence upon the area that it serves.

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