



## **Emerging Churches: Creating Christian Community in Postmodern Cultures**

*Eddie Gibbs , Ryan K. Bolger*

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The "emerging church" movement is perhaps the most significant church trend of our day. The emerging church offers and encourages a new way of doing and being the church. While it largely resonates with an eighteen-to-thirty-four-year-old audience--the first fully postmodern generation--it is also gaining popularity with older Christians and encompasses a broad array of traditional and contemporary churches. *Emerging Churches* explores this movement and provides insight into its success.

Filled with the latest research and interesting, anecdotal testimonies from those on the cutting edge of ministry, this book provides pastors, church leaders, and interested readers with an insightful glimpse into the thriving churches of today--and tomorrow.

## Emerging Churches: Creating Christian Community in Postmodern Cultures Details

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# **From Reader Review Emerging Churches: Creating Christian Community in Postmodern Cultures for online ebook**

## **Job Dalomba says**

It's good for stories, explaining the emerging church as a supporter but that's about it. I would recommend reading it.

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## **Mark Sequeira says**

The best on the topic so far. This is THE book to get if you want to know where things are going and why. It doesn't waste time on individual practices but stays more along the broad themes that are challenging/changing the church as we know it. It may cause some fearful souls to realize that some of these changes can actually be for the good! The broad topics are listed as: Identifying with Jesus. Transforming secular space. Living as community. Welcoming the stranger. Serving with generosity. Participating as producers. Creating as created beings. Leading as a body. Merging ancient and contemporary spiritualities.

TallSkinnyKiwi.com says this is simply the best book yet on the emerging church and I would agree. The only other I think I would also recommend is "An Emergent Theology for Emerging Churches"

by Ray S. Anderson

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## **Geoffrey Kerns says**

It's a little textbookish but if you can tolerate that kind of rhythm then it's great. Loaded with some great research and info on current trends within faith communities.

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## **Graham Bates says**

Eddie Gibbs and Ryan Bolger provide a great introduction to the Emerging Church Movement through interviews and observations of Emerging Church leaders in the USA and UK. Although it is not meant to be a how-to for churches to become emergent, their purpose was to help people understand the positive aspects of this movement. They do not intend to be objective but rather descriptive in their method. In this they succeed marvelously.

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## **Shane says**

Not only satisfying, left me wanting more.

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### **Carl Amouzou says**

Very informative in regards to understanding the common threads of Emerging Churches. Although it is meant to be a broad stroke and introduction, the book felt repetitive at times as the multiplicity of voices repeat one another. All in all I found the book very helpful in processing and imagining praxis within my own community.

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### **John Parker says**

Not too scholarly- a little dated in terms of where some of these people are now and what they are doing. Still, it is must reading for those who in the evangelical community that are suspicious of the emergent/emergence thing.

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### **Matt Mason says**

Not 3 stars because of my agreement. I give it 3 because the writing is a clear representation of the movement. Thoroughly researched. Well written. Heartbreaking. Could also have been titled Adventures in Missing the Point.

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### **J says**

I don't agree with all of the emergent church stuff, but I think they are at least asking the right questions. This book is heady and dense, but does a good job covering the bases and the breadth of what's going on in the emergent world. A lot of coverage of UK churches, which apparently have been at this longer than the US, but a lot of those stories (about rave churches and coffee house churches and such) don't resonate. I am still on the fence about whether I totally disagree with emergent theology or just mostly disagree - but I feel better prepared to talk and think about it now having read this. I love the practices of community, hospitality, etc but I can't get over the pluralism. Sigh.

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### **Karen says**

Now I finally understand that Emerging Churches aren't just about 40-year-old pastors with spikey hair and Gap clothes who have kids named Ezra and Damaris. Apparently, that's a Gen X church ;) Really interesting stuff, but I don't think I'm artsy enough to be a part of one.

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## **Ryan says**

Gibbs and Bolger provide a very broad picture of the emerging churches. They find nine commonalities among emerging churches: 1) Identifying with Jesus, 2) Transforming Secular Space, 3) Living as Community, 4) Welcoming the Stranger, 5) Serving with Generosity, 6) Participating as Producers, 7) Creating as Created Beings, 8) Leading as a Body, and 9) Merging Ancient and Contemporary Spiritualities. Not all emerging churches share all commonalities equally, some have some, some have all, and these commonalities are present in other communities. None of these are set in stone, none are more or less important and the entire identity of the emerging church movement is fluid. The best part of the book, in my opinion, was the first two chapters that elucidate the current cultural situation and the need for these emerging movements. Still, the entire book was a great, fairly objective (obviously a qualified objectivity), collection of research that acts as a great introduction to the early church.

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## **Andrew says**

Sorry I am so slow on updating my profile. This book had some good thinking in the emerging church, and I would recommend it to those who are trying to learn about the movement. I do think that Joshua Moritz's paper on the need for emerging theology was better...

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## **Steven Gaston says**

Informative, albeit a bit dry.

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