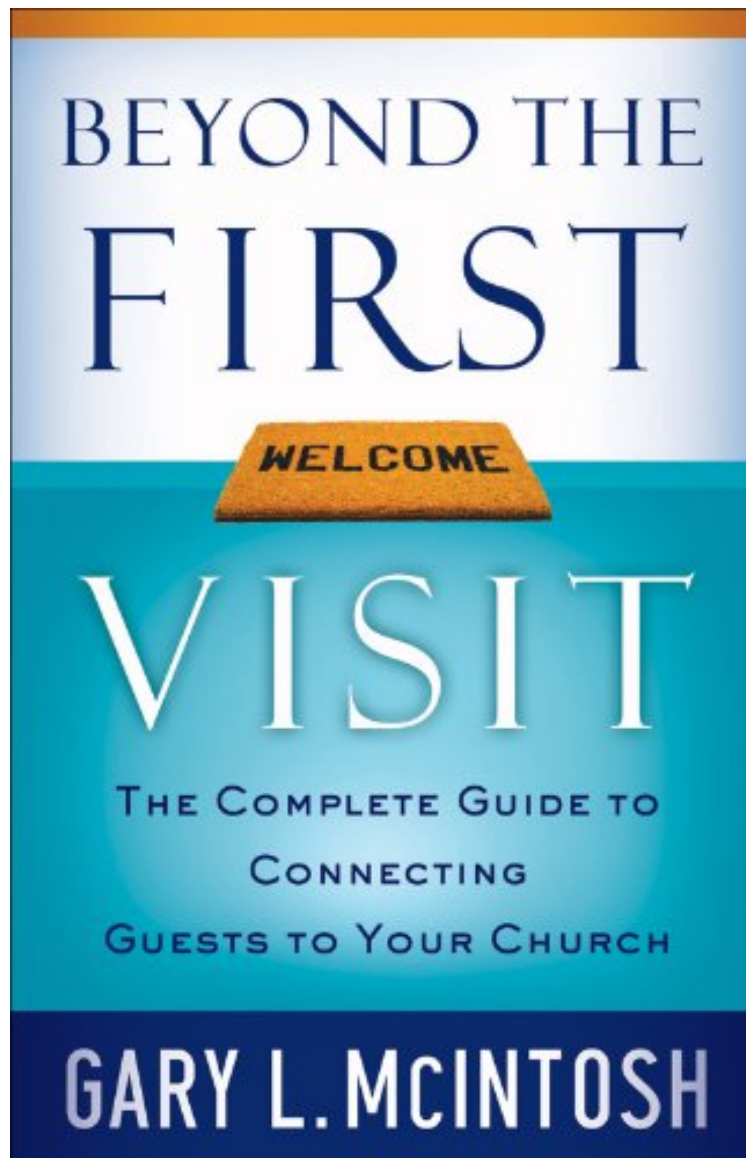


(Download free pdf) Beyond the First Visit: The Complete Guide to Connecting Guests to Your Church

Beyond the First Visit: The Complete Guide to Connecting Guests to Your Church

Gary L. McIntosh

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Gary L. McIntosh : Beyond the First Visit: The Complete Guide to Connecting Guests to Your Church before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Beyond the First Visit: The Complete Guide to Connecting Guests to Your Church:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A Complete Program for Retaining Guests By KurtWI have given a copy of this book to Lay Leaders in the church to read and review. They have been impacted by it and we have begun

a program in the church modeled after the book and fashioned for our particular small congregation. A Lay Leader in charge has developed a training program for committed team members of the "Welcome Wagon." As a pastor I am excited because the book puts practical steps within reach that will help us keep guests who come to church, especially from our mailings. Our congregation is mostly blue collar and is under 100 in attendance but this has potential for all shapes and sizes as it impacts the sociological perspectives of Laypeople regarding their church. It is like having a consultant talk to you for the price of a book. Blessings!
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good for discussion.
By April B. It's been great for leading a discussion with our hospitality committee. Not everything in the book will be applicable, feasible or aligned with your vision, but it does force you to take a serious look at how welcoming your church actually is.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. it's a fine background book for church leaders at all levels
By Susan J. Hakel Basic and readable, it's a fine background book for church leaders at all levels.

All churches like to think that theirs is the friendliest in town. But do visitors see it that way? Church consultant Gary McIntosh invites readers to take a look at their church through the eyes of visitors and potential visitors. His starting point, grounded in an understanding of God as a "welcomer," is that churches should see those who enter their doors as not merely visitors, but as guests, and themselves as gracious hosts. This practical book offers sound advice on assessing and improving the ways in which churches attract people, welcome them, do follow-up, and bring them into the church family. It also offers suggestions for making a welcoming attitude part of the very fabric of the local church.

From the Back Cover Does your church put out the "Welcome" mat or the "Do not disturb" sign? We all like to think that our church is the friendliest one in town. But do visitors see it that way? Church consultant Gary L. McIntosh invites you to take another look at your church through the eyes of a first-time guest to identify the things that might be holding them back from a second visit. This very practical book offers sound advice on assessing and improving the ways in which your church attracts people, welcomes them, does follow-up, and brings them into the church family. More than simply offering mere techniques, it gives suggestions for making a welcoming attitude part of the very fabric of your church. "McIntosh is a coach who knows the fundamentals of church life and outreach. Beyond the First Visit is an essential training tool on how to implement these fundamentals." --Dr. John W. Ellas, Center for Church Growth
"Gary McIntosh has learned, as a church consultant with years of experience, to see the churches he visits from the first-time guest's point of view. We have only one chance to make a first impression!" --Eddie Gibbs, Fuller Theological Seminary
"McIntosh's new book fills a long-standing void. No one (to my knowledge) since Lyle Schaller's *Assimilating New Members*, published in 1978, has addressed the challenge of effectively including new people in the church's life with this much background, savvy, and precision." --George G. Hunter III, distinguished professor of Evangelism and Church Growth, Asbury Theological Seminary
"This book is great! It's filled with practical ideas to tackle every local church's greatest challenge: how to connect and disciple new people. We have already begun to implement many of Gary's excellent ideas." --Dr. Gary D. Kinnaman, author, senior pastor, Word of Grace, Mesa, AZ
Gary L. McIntosh is professor of Christian Ministry and Leadership at Talbot School of Theology, Biola University. He is a former pastor with many years as a church consultant. He is the author or coauthor of thirteen books on church leadership and growth, and the editor of *Church Growth Network* and *Journal of the American Society of Church Growth*.
About the Author Gary L. McIntosh (PhD, Fuller Theological Seminary) is president of the Church Growth Network and professor of Christian ministry and leadership at Talbot School of Theology. He leads seminars and has written twenty books, including *Biblical Church Growth*