

What Small Churches Have to Offer

by Scott Elliott from *Start to Finish*

continued from 2 weeks ago...

Churches in small communities tend to use all their members. It is possible to be a part of a large church in an urban area and never get involved in anything. It can even be difficult trying to find ways to serve if the church is not actively seeking to get people involved. Anonymity is much more difficult and even impossible in many rural churches. They need people to serve in various capacities. You may even be asked on a whim one Sunday morning if you would like to lead a prayer, wait on the table, or teach a Bible class. Rural churches will more likely use people who may not be used in a setting that is trying to keep a certain appearance. Some urban churches may have an entire staff of professionals, whereas small churches may utilize a member with a mental handicap or someone who tends to stray off topic. I appreciate professionalism, but it is important to remember the body of Christ includes members who do not fit into societal norms. This should be reflected in our worship.

One could easily write a similar article about large urban churches. It is important to remember that churches come in all shapes and sizes. We should not dismiss a church because of its appearance or size, but rather we should seek to learn what each congregation has to offer. This will benefit the larger body of Christ as a whole, and we might be surprised by what we discover.

Leachville church of Christ
609 S. Main St.
Leachville, AR 72438

