

THE UNCHANGING CHURCH



“And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace... will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

1 PETER 5:10

Building Healthy Churches

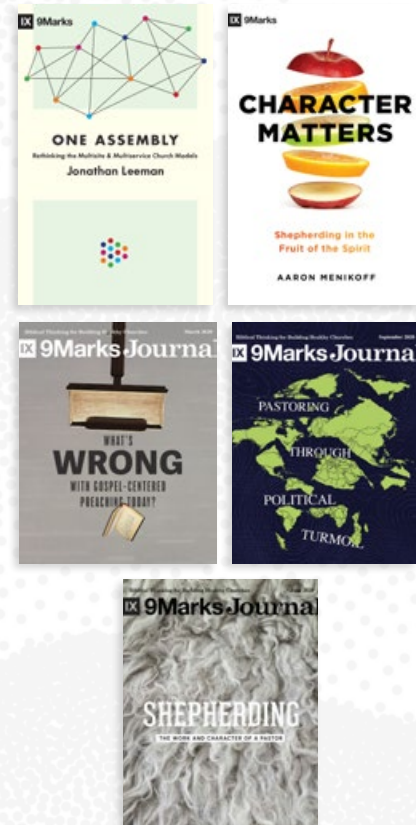
Many things have changed in 2020. Our work arrangements. Our facewear. Our greetings. Some might even say 2020 has changed how we interact. When did crossing the street to pass on the other side become a polite courtesy?

Many things have changed. But has the church?

To be sure, health mandates have required almost every church to change a few practices. Seating requires spacing. Plastic wrappings prepackage the Lord's Supper. More than a few indoor gatherings have moved outdoors. But at 9Marks, we believe the definition of the church has not changed. A worldwide virus may alter how we clean our meeting space, but it cannot redefine the church. A church is an assembly of repenting sinners who believe upon Jesus Christ and gather around the right preaching of God's word and the right administration of baptism and the Lord's Supper.

The Christian gathering was, is, and always will be fundamental to a right understanding of what it means to be a church. In Jesus' words, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them" (Matt. 18:20). While COVID-19 has accelerated chatter about the benefits of "virtual church," 2020 has proven there is a substantial difference between virtually logging in and actually showing up to be the body of Christ.

Many things have changed in 2020. But what it means to be a church has not. Even in the face of global pandemics, the church is unchanging.



9MARKS DIRECTORS:
RYAN TOWNSEND,
MARK DEVER,
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& RICK DENHAM



Resources

New Books

We further expanded into the world of mini books with the *Church Questions series*, releasing nine mini books in our rookie year (we like the number nine). Aaron Menikoff published *Character Matters*. Jonathan Leeman also published *One Assembly*, a book which biblically evaluates how gathering is written into the very definition of what it means to be a church. This definition has not changed and should not change.

4 Journals

- *What's Wrong with Gospel-Centered Preaching Today?*
- *Shepherding: The Work & Character of a Pastor*
- *Pastoring through Political Turmoil*
- *On Heaven* (coming in December)

New Podcasts

Did you know 9Marks now has a podcast network? Alongside *Pastors Talk*, which passed 2 million downloads this year, we also added *Bible Talk*, *Preachers Talk*, and *Journal Talk* to our portfolio of audio resources.



Events

Minutes after our opening welcome at the March Weekender, lockdowns across the country began on account of the COVID-19 pandemic. 9Marks pivoted to equip pastors through our *COVID-19 & The Church* online resource center. This resource center offers FAQs, articles, and livestream interview events where pastors from four continents helped one another thoughtfully consider everything from member care to church finances to government mandates.

31,200

COVID PAGE
HITS FROM
155 COUNTRIES

1

INTERNATIONAL
INTENSIVE

1

WEEKENDER
(SHORTENED DUE
TO COVID-19)

ALONG WITH THE U.S., THE TOP 10 COUNTRIES
THAT VISITED OUR COVID PAGE INCLUDE

India, Singapore, and South Africa.

225,000+

BOOKS SOLD
THIS YEAR

\$31k

BOOKSTORE
DISCOUNTS GIVEN

15k

BIBLE TALK
DOWNLOADS
IN FIRST 4 EPISODES

2 million

PASTORS TALK
DOWNLOADS

Networks

Events can influence the course of a pastor's life and ministry. A few hours in the same room, learning and talking together can really move the needle. Conferences turn a few hours into a few days, expanding the potential for growth. But what if we had extended time together? How much might life and ministry change then? What relationships and ministry partnerships might emerge?

We're about to find out! 9Marks is pleased to announce the opening of our new pastoral training & sabbatical house. Located directly adjacent to the 9Marks office and six blocks from the U.S. Capitol, this building with two apartments is a long-term investment into spending extended, face-to-face time with faithful pastors of local churches, not in a classroom but in a home.

Tiago Oliveira, our first pastor
in residence, with his family.
Future lead pastor of First Baptist
Church-Lisbon, Portugal.

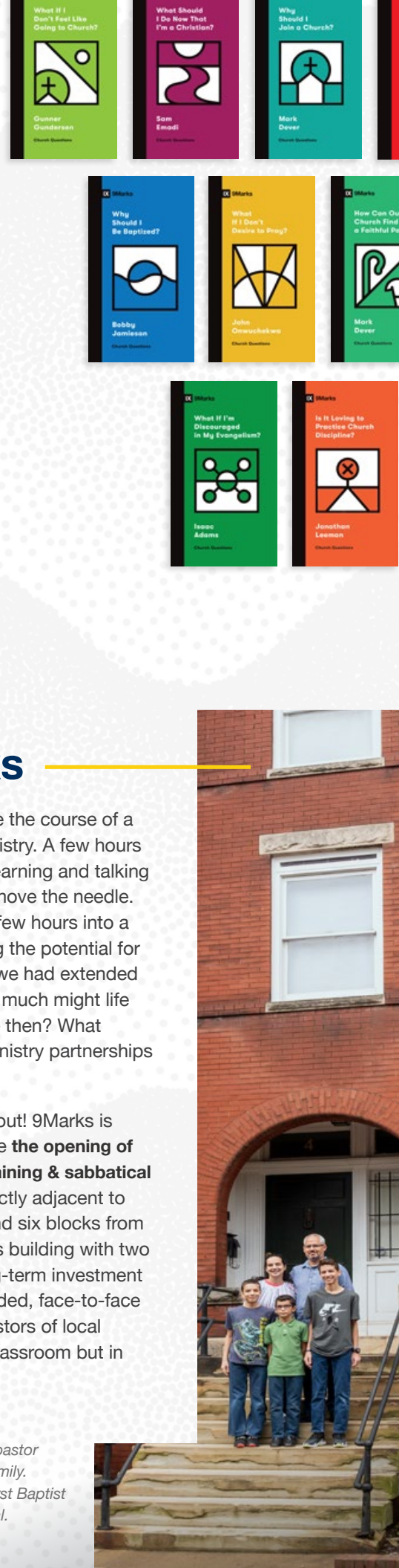




Photo by
Bill Walsh

International

9Marks is working with international partners to equip and encourage them in their translation of resources and pastoral training aimed at building healthy local churches. Learn more about the fruit of these partnerships and download dozens of free resources at 9marks.org/about/international-efforts.

307

TRANSLATED
BOOKS

42

TRANSLATED
JOURNALS

78

TRANSLATED
CORE
SEMINARS

9

LANGUAGE
WEBSITES

Active in 46 languages

NEW IN 2020 - DARI (PERSIAN), HEBREW, HUNGARIAN, NORWEGIAN, SERBIAN, TURKISH, UZBEK, VAIPHEI

Find print and digital resources at 9marks.org/translations.

Digital Growth

9Marks' reach continues to spread as shown by some measurements of our digital footprint.

2.5 million

DOMESTIC AND
INTERNATIONAL
WEBSITE VISITS

380

CHURCHES
ADDED TO 9MARKS'
CHURCH SEARCH

80 countries

VISITED OUR
TRANSLATIONS PAGE

Looking for a healthy church?
Visit 9marks.org/church-search.

9 language sites

AVAILABLE IN SPANISH, FRENCH,
PORTUGUESE, CHINESE, RUSSIAN,
UZBEK, DARI, KOREAN & ROMANIAN

18k

HOURS WATCHED
ON YOUTUBE



Annual Budget

2020 Budgeted Income \$2,093,098

Charitable Gifts	\$1,507,000
Resources	\$720,673
Events	\$250,750
Other	\$18,672

2020 Donation Statistics†

Churches	\$463,003 (47%)
Individuals	\$413,995 (42%)
Foundations	\$108,861 (11%)

†as of 9/30/2020

2021 Budgeted Income \$2,100,000

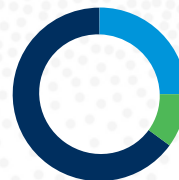
How Money Is Spent



How Money Is Raised



Fundraising Forecast 2020



Thank you to our team of financial investors who help make every 9Marks resource, event, and relationship possible. We are filled with gratitude when we think of you.

May God use your generosity to build his church.

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GIVE ONLINE

9Marks.org/donate