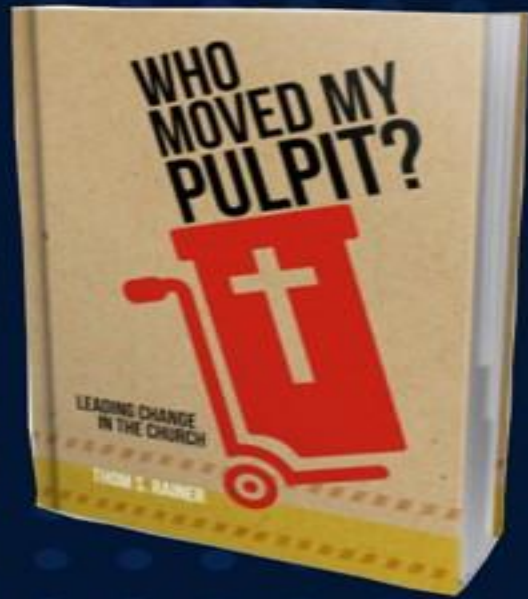


Virtual Bible Study Every Wed. @ 7:00 PM EST

# Who Moved my Pulpit:

Leading Change in the Church



*A New Online Book Study Series Starting September 9th*

*Books can be purchased online at the following sites:  
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## Nehemiah 1:1-4

The words of Nehemiah son of Hakaliah: In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa, <sup>2</sup> Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that had survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> They said to me, “Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire.” <sup>4</sup> When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven



**WHEN YOUR PULPIT  
GETS MOVED**



**Q: Why can something seemingly as minor as changing pulpits create conflict in the church?**

■ **1<sup>st</sup> Failure: Not Praying**

- “I began in my own power”
- “I had become so confident and cocky about my own leadership, I guess I thought I didn’t need God this time.”
- In Nehemiah 1:3-4 as soon as he had a thought to do something he prayed.
  - As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven. (***Nehemiah 1:4***)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Failure: Not Assessing Unintended Consequences

- “The law of unintended consequences points out that any significant change in an organization will have reactions that extend well beyond the change itself.”
- In leading change we must consider how it might impact others.
- Let your gentleness be apparent to all. The Lord is near. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. **(Philippians 4:5-7)**
  - *Considering others doesn't mean not moving forward with change, it enables you to better navigate the needed change.*

### **3rd Failure: Not Communicating**

- “He never explained his rationale. He did not share with the people about his evolving preaching style.”
- People don’t know what’s in your head. We must explain explain, and explain.
  - Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me. (***John 11:41-42***)

### **4th Failure: Not Dealing with People Issues**

- “I did not get buy-in on the front end”, “I know who our key influencers are in the church. I just bulldozed ahead.”
  - For by wise guidance you can wage your war, and in abundance of counselors there is victory (***Proverbs 24:6***)

## 4<sup>th</sup> Failure: Not Dealing with People Issues (cont)

- Never admitted his failure instead he went into an emotional retreat.
  - Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.  
(James 5:16)

## 5th Failure: Not Modeling Positive Leadership

- For the Good of the Church we must push past our feelings.
  - Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. (Ephesians 4:31-32)



# **FIVE KINDS OF UNMOVABLE MEMBERS**



***Pastors and other church leaders make mistakes.***

***Church members often exacerbate them.***

### **The Deniers:**

- No need to change, things are fine the way it is and are not motivated to do anything differently.

### **The Entitled:**

- Antitheses of a Biblical Church Member (1<sup>st</sup> Cor 12)
- Church is about their perks, desires and their comfort.

### **The Blamers**

- Rather blame the Pastor or others than be obedient
- They cannot see what's wrong with themselves.

### **The Critics**

- PAST “People are saying that...”
- Combined negativity with deception

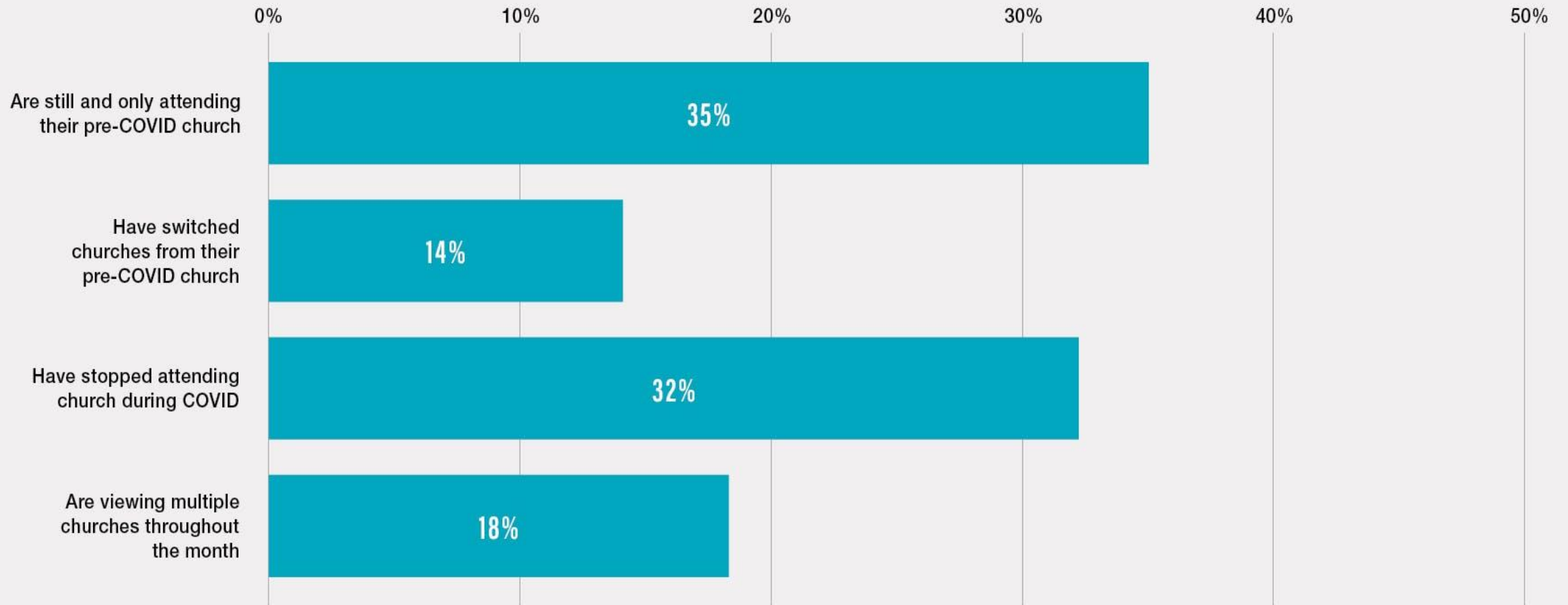
### **The Confused**

- Often well intentioned but hold on to sacred cows that are biblical.
- Major in the minor and minor in the major.



**THE TIME IS NOW TO  
CHANGE**

# COVID-19 ONLINE CHURCH ATTENDANCE AMONG PRACTICING CHRISTIANS



- Too many congregations today are stuck; they are not moving forward. **The Great Commission of Matthew 28:18–20 is about moving forward.**
- At its essence, the Great Commission is about going; which requires:
  - *Forward movement and removing the obstacles that will hinder the progress.*
- Churches that move forward and evolve are being obedient to God.
- In order to be fulfill the great commission, we must seek God for power!
  - *Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:18-20)*

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TAKE-OUT MEALS FRIDAYS 11AM-1PM

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED. WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.



# VOLUNTEERS

# NEEDED

## DOOR SCREENER

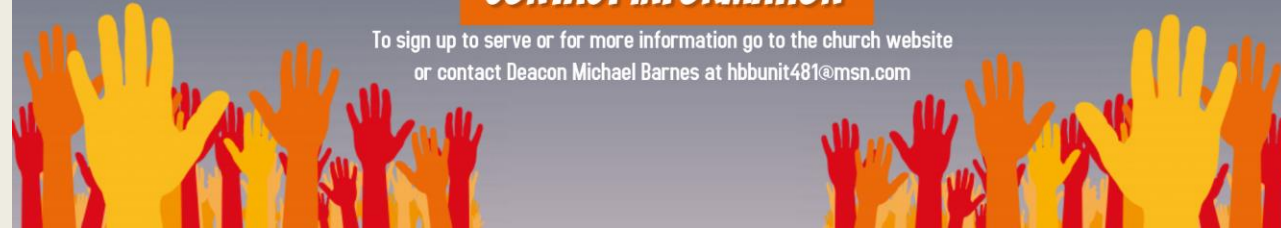
Greet members and visitors before they enter the Church Building  
Ask them a series of COVID related questions about travel or symptoms  
Report temperatures above 100.4 or any COVID symptoms to Re-entry Team

## USHER/GREETERS

Greet members and visitors after they enter the Church Building  
Seat members and visitors based on available seating  
Help maintain the flow of traffic before and after worship.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

To sign up to serve or for more information go to the church website  
or contact Deacon Michael Barnes at [hbbunit481@msn.com](mailto:hbbunit481@msn.com)



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