

## What to Look For on a Church Website

Here's a practical guide to help you spot red flags that may indicate **false teaching or theological drift**, especially when evaluating a church for your family:

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### 1. Vague or Absent Statement of Faith

- If the church doesn't clearly outline its beliefs—or uses generic language like “we love Jesus” without doctrinal clarity—it's a warning sign.
- Look for specifics: Do they affirm the Trinity, the authority of Scripture, salvation by grace through faith?

Churches grounded in truth are not afraid to be doctrinally transparent.

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### 2. Elevated Focus on the Pastor or Leadership

- Is the pastor's image everywhere? Are titles like “Apostle” or “Prophet” used?
- Does the site emphasize their “anointing,” “mantle,” or “revelation” more than Christ?

True shepherds point to Jesus, not themselves.

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### 3. Buzzwords That Echo Prosperity or NAR Theology

- Phrases like “activate your destiny,” “step into abundance,” “speak your breakthrough,” or “take dominion” often signal prosperity gospel or New Apostolic Reformation influence.
- Watch for Seven Mountain Mandate language or promises of supernatural impartation.

Biblical teaching centers on surrender, not self-promotion.

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#### **4. Experience Over Scripture**

- Does the site highlight emotional worship, prophetic encounters, or supernatural manifestations—but barely mention the Bible?
- Are sermons described as “downloads from heaven” or “fresh revelation”?

God’s Word is timeless. Churches rooted in truth don’t need to reinvent it.

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#### **5. Giving Linked to Blessing**

- If the site promotes “seed sowing,” “financial breakthrough,” or implies that giving unlocks favor, it’s a prosperity gospel hallmark.
- Look for pressure tactics like “partner with us to receive your miracle.”

Generosity is biblical—but manipulation is not.

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#### **6. No Mention of Sin, Repentance, or the Cross**

- If the gospel is reduced to personal empowerment, healing, or success, it’s not the gospel.
- A healthy church will talk about sin, grace, and the need for repentance.

The cross is central—not optional.

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#### **7. Isolation from Accountability**

- Is the church part of a recognized denomination or network with doctrinal oversight?
- Independent churches with no accountability can drift into error unchecked.

Biblical leadership is humble and accountable—not isolated and untouchable.

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The **Five-Fold Ministry** is often intertwined with the same theological streams as the **New Apostolic Reformation (NAR)** and can be a marker of potential doctrinal drift when misapplied. Here’s how it fits into the list of red flags to watch for on a church’s website:

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### **Additional Red Flag: Misuse of the Five-Fold Ministry**

#### **What to Look For:**

- The church claims to operate in the **Five-Fold Ministry** from *Ephesians 4:11*—apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers—but elevates **modern-day apostles and prophets** as governing authorities.
- These leaders may claim **special revelation, spiritual covering, or exclusive access to God’s voice**, often without accountability.
- The site may promote **apostolic networks, prophetic impartations, or activation events** that go beyond Scripture.

 While Ephesians 4:11 describes roles that equip the Church, the **modern reinterpretation** often places apostles and prophets in **unbiblical positions of power**, aligning with NAR theology.

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#### **Questions to Ask:**

- Are apostles and prophets treated as **spiritual gatekeepers**?
- Is the church part of a **network that promotes dominion theology or extra-biblical revelation**?
- Does the leadership claim **authority over regions, cities, or other churches**?