

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:

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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:

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.

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**?