

Take the Merger-Readiness Assessment Test

Do your answers lead you to conclude that your church may be a good merger candidate?

If your church believes it could become a better church or be turned around by joining a like-minded but more vibrant church, then it is a good candidate for a church merger.

One next step is to actually score your church's readiness for a merger, using a scale of 1 to 5. Estimate your score on each of the questions below, add up the tally, and then look at the interpretation. This assessment is not the voice of the Lord, but it will give you an indication of how God might be leading. Statements 1-7 are for all churches. Then for statements 8-10, answer only one set, the set that seems to most closely match your circumstances.

Merger Readiness Self-Assessment

Self-Rating (1=no, not at all, 5=yes, strongly so)

ALL CHURCHES

(Lead or Joining Churches)

1. Could the kingdom of God *be further enlarged* by merging with another church? _____
2. Would your community *be better served* if your church and another church merged together? _____
3. Could your church and another church *accomplish more* together than we could separately? _____
4. Would your congregation *be better* by merging rather than remaining separate? _____
5. Is your church anticipating *succession*, without a pastor, or having difficulty finding a pastor? _____
6. Has your church been *approached* by another church or denominational leader to consider merging? _____
7. Are you aware of a *church planter* in your area who has lots of people but no facility (whom your church could potentially help by sharing its facility)? _____

ONLY FOR POTENTIAL JOINING CHURCHES

8. Is your church having trouble reaching the next generation with the gospel? _____
9. Is your church facing financial pressures, unable to meet its financial obligations or maintain its facilities? _____
10. Are there one or more healthy, vibrant, growing churches in your area that you could imagine merging with? _____

ONLY FOR POTENTIAL LEAD CHURCHES

8. Is your church currently multisite or open to becoming a multisite church? _____
9. Is your church growing and in need of more space? _____
10. Does your church's leadership have a big heart toward revitalizing area churches?

TOTAL _____

IS YOUR CHURCH A GOOD MERGER CANDIDATE?

The higher your total, the stronger you are as a merger candidate. If you score at least 20, do explore further the idea of merging. If you're above 30, merging seems to be a very good fit. If you're about 40, merging seems to hold huge promise for your church.