

GENDER GAP SELF SURVEY (For discussion and creating ideas)

This is a series of leading questions with obvious implications. The questions stimulate us to ask whether 'real men' will come and excitedly fill their role in church, or whether they will gravitate to 'bums on seats', or even quietly exit the back door.

The cumulative result may give an indication of the current gender balance, and maybe even the age profile of our churches.

To quote Dr Edwards Deming: "The system you use (i.e. church structure and activities) is perfectly designed to give you the results you are getting".

To use this sheet, read the statement, apply it to your church, and guess and tick the implications. Watch out, a 'no' answer does not always mean the Implications answer falls into the same column!

	Answer	Implications (tick one)	
	Yes/No	Men stay?	Men drift?
The church is 'nice' and not at all rough around the edges.			
Each man has a spiritual mentor.			
Men seek to disciple/mentor one or two others.			
Women take the lead in church.			
There are hands on, practical, challenging activities for serving.			
The sermons are just words with no action.			
The sermons are over 10 minutes long.			
The sermons are largely doctrinal and 'academic'.			
The worship music is emotive and relationship focused.			
The 'leaders' actually do have a band of followers.			
There a lot of reading and memory work in church (e.g. liturgy).			
The services are 'user friendly' to those who are unchurched.			
The leaders are aware of and helpful for those carrying guilt.			
The purpose of the church is clear, simple and being followed.			
There are short term projects for men to 'make happen'.			
All teaching has a clear, simple and has a 'doing' application.			
Men like to bring their mates to church.			
Men take the initiative in bringing their own families to church.			
Services are sensible and rational as well as spiritual.			

By Darryl Stewart, with help from a couple of young mates plus the book

"Why Men Hate Going to Church" by David Murrow.