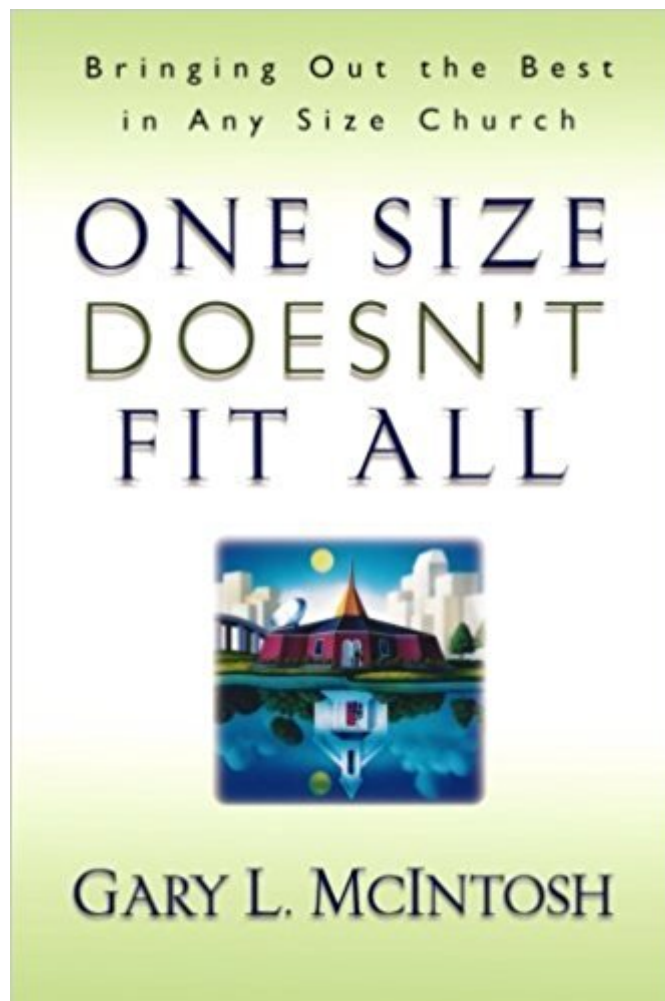




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# One Size Doesn't Fit All: Bringing Out The Best In Any Size Church



## Synopsis

Different churches grow in different ways. This book will help you figure out your church's orientation and show the way to healthy growth.

## Book Information

Paperback: 174 pages

Publisher: Revell; 7.2.1999 edition (August 1, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0800756991

ISBN-13: 978-0800756994

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.4 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 39 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #137,619 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #95 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Churches & Church Leadership > Church Growth](#) #101 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Churches & Church Leadership > Church Institutions & Organizations](#) #135 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Churches & Church Leadership > Church Administration](#)

## Customer Reviews

Gary McIntosh has done it again with his book entitled, *One Size Doesn't Fit All*. For whatever reason, most pastors dream and pray towards seeing their ministry grow in influence and numbers. There is nothing wrong with that. At best a small church is a distant cousin of the larger ministry. While sharing some things in common, their diversity must be understood if their ministry is going to realize all that God intended it to be. "What's good for the goose is not always good for the gander. Dr. McIntosh has the ability to analyze the similarities and differences, surface the important differentiating factors and communicate them effectively to the broader church public. I believe Dr. McIntosh's book will encourage the churches regardless of their size to accept their limitations of their demographics and build solidly on those principles and practices that address their specific individual needs. *One Size Doesn't Fit All* will encourage, break the complacency of others, and hopefully refocus churches on the realities of their mission accepting both its limitations and potential. Each size ministry has its unique opportunities and its consistent problems. What works on a size C ministry may not be effective at all in a size A ministry. Dr. McIntosh's insights and analytical abilities enable him to surface for us those non-negotiables that must be in place if a ministry of any size is going to be blessed. Building on the non-negotiables are the unique

characteristics of the individual church of whatever category. -- Joe Aldrich, president emeritus, Multnomah Bible College and Biblical Seminary

Gary McIntosh's book, *One Size Doesn't Fit All*, is the easiest and most informative book on church leadership I have ever read. Why didn't a few seminary professors teach me this stuff twenty five years ago? It would have saved me and some parishioners a lot of grief along the way. Gary's description of the small, medium, and large church with its needs and expectations is a gold mine of practical insights for all pastors, no matter what size church they lead. This book will be a classic in the area of church leadership and growth. -- Dr. Michael Bradaric, senior pastor, Magnolia Baptist Church, Anaheim, CA

If only I had been able to read this book eighteen years ago when I became a pastor. What a difference it would have made! This is the most significant book I've read in the last twenty-four months. It is a must read for every pastor, lay leader and committed church member. I intend to use *One Size Doesn't Fit All* extensively as I help churches to grow. This book has my enthusiastic endorsement. -- Dr. Mark Belokonny, church consultant

In this book Dr. Gary McIntosh uses his warm conversational style and vast years of experience in church analysis and consulting to provide a book of wisdom for pastors. We don't need more church growth information, but we do need more wisdom to apply the principles of growth and leadership in the unique context of the churches in which we minister. I believe Gary provides this wisdom in *One Size Doesn't Fit All*. -- Dr. David H. McKinley, senior pastor, Boca Raton Community Church, Boca Raton, FL

Nobody knows the organizational structure and social dynamics of the church better than my friend Dr. Gary McIntosh. I highly recommend this insightful book, which will enlighten your understanding of the critical differences that exist between various sized churches and how they function. -- Dr. Neil T. Anderson, president and founder, Freedom in Christ Ministries

Reading this book and gleaning its insights into the church's orientation, structure, direction, growth, and so forth will save the so-called experienced pastor as well as the new pastor much frustration and pain in leading and ministering more effectively in the local church. -- Aubrey Malphurs, professor, Dallas Seminary and President of Vision Ministries International

The church is one of the most important institutions in our society today. In a world that's changing so fast, we need a little help in making sure the church stays on course. Gary McIntosh's new book *One Size Doesn't Fit All* is helpful to the small or large church trying to grow. This easy to read parable will help us bring out the best in our churches, no matter what their size. -- Ken Blanchard, coauthor of *The One Minute Manager*

There's something here for all churches. This book is an insightful resource for pastors, church boards and staff, and people interested in church growth. -- CBA Marketplace, July 1999

This book is a process of wisdom for church leaders in understanding the changes that impact churches at each stage of their development. This material was researched

well, practical in nature and insightful for all church leaders. After serving in small, medium, and larger churches I wish that this material was available twenty five years ago. I wish every church leader would read and apply these principles. -- Dr. J. Michael Broyles, executive pastor, Grace Baptist Church, Santa Clarita, CA

This is absolutely a great book. Every denominational leader should make sure that their pastors have a copy of this book. It is the most enjoyable, practical, and capsulated version of church growth dynamics I have ever seen. I sat down and read through it in one sitting. It is great information encased in an enjoyable story. I know I will find myself referring to *One Size Doesn't Fit All* regularly in my ministry. -- Dr. Gil Stieglitz, senior pastor, Twin Lakes Community Church, Palmdale, CA

Dr. Gary L. McIntosh is a nationally known author, speaker, educator, consultant, and professor of Christian ministry and leadership at Talbot School of Theology, Biola University, located in La Mirada, California. He has written extensively in the field of pastoral ministry, leadership, generational studies, and church growth. Dr. McIntosh received his B.A. from Colorado Christian University in Biblical Studies, an M.Div. from Western C.B. Seminary in Pastoral Studies, and a D.Min. from Fuller Theological Seminary in Church Growth Studies. As President of The McIntosh Church Growth Network, a church consulting firm he founded in 1989, Dr. McIntosh has served over 500 churches in 53 denominations throughout the United States and Canada. The 1995 and 1996 President of the American Society for Church Growth, he edits both the Church Growth Network newsletter and the Journal of the American Society for Church Growth.

This book lays out the differences in how churches of various sizes differ in terms of decision making, growth engines, growth obstacles, pastoral needs, etc. His main contention is that church growth/health factors are not one-size-fits-all, so rather than looking for the next hot growth method, ministers need to be aware of the dynamics of church size and use approaches that fit those dynamics. It's an easy read in narrative style as a young minister tries to learn to serve his small church well. An older minister at a large, growing church talks him through these principles. Great chart on p. 143-4 lays out the principles of the whole book.

I am an elder at an independent non-denominational church & I got a lot out of this book. It's an easy read and will help you evaluate what size church you are and what size church your congregation acts like (among other things). Our church is in the small category but the attitude of the church is more like a medium. This book should help you spring board to other thought

processes to aide growth. The only thing I am disappointed about with this book is that it puts the "pastor" as the head of the church and I don't see that as Biblical. In fact I am one who doesn't use the term "pastor" as it relates to the minister. As I see it, it's more of a term meant for an elder (although I don't use it in that way either). None the less, this book has some good and useful information in it.

This was a great book and an enjoyable read. Once I started it I just did not want to stop until I had finished the book. Great wisdom being shared and enjoyed how each thing showed from the angle of small, medium, and large church. Now if only I could find a mentor/coach like this guy had, then I would have it made. Good read for all.

Very practical. Every minister/church leader must read this book. I have learnt how to slow down and keep focused In leading God's flock. Whether I happen to be with Small, Medium or Large, I will know how to handle the perfect growth of the ministry especially grooming the size of the family in a small church to be lovely and strong, handling multiple group of families in a medium church or knowing the structure of a large church which is organizational. This book is an excellent manual for every church planter.

No matter the size of your church. This book will be a blessing to you. I would suggest this book to all Pastor, for McIntosh really helps Pastors to understand where their church is, the dynamics that exist within the church, why they exist, how to change the dynamics, and how to move your church forward. As a Pastor, this book caused me to reconsider some moves I was going to make. In addition, the book helped me to better understand some of things in my church. Awesome book, very easy to read and even entertaining at points.

It is an easy and quick read. Although the content had some good nuggets of wisdom and insight, there was not much depth and very little fresh theological or Biblical meat. It may be helpful to a pastor who is serving a small congregation for the first time after having served in staff positions at bigger churches. It also utilizes very masculine pronouns for pastors which sometimes leaves me feeling like it is not a book written with me, a female pastor, in mind.

This book provides a great deal of help to the small town pastor because the author writes from his experience in this setting. The book is a compilation of the advice received from a seasoned pastor

of a large church. It describes in detail the difference between small, medium, and large churches, and how to best relate to each.

This was a relatively fast read and kept me interested right up until the final couple chapters where it seemed to drag a bit. The book is essentially set up like a fiction story about two pastors: one mentoring another. The one being mentored just became the pastor of a small church and has no idea how to minister in such an environment. So the book revolves around the differences between small, medium, and large churches. It actually is chalk-full of good insights, but it became redundant after a while which made the later chapters drag on (also the narration seemed to stave off at the end as well). I liked the book, though I do disagree with a few of his ideas...such as the concept that a church is "large" after it has over 400 members. That still seems to be a medium church to me. So, other than some of the ideas related to church size, I can definitely see a lot of the ideas working out in churches. I would recommend the book to pastors, lay-leaders, deacons, and Bible college students. \*\*\*Kindle edition: Formatting was good, so no worries if you are considering it for your kindle.

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