

Kent Carlson and Mike Lueken,
Renovation of the Church. What Happens When a Seeker Church Discovers Spiritual Formation
(Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 2011), 184 pages.

This important book is a further reminder of the importance of spirituality for the Christian scene of twenty-first century North America. It records the pain and joy of transitioning a California church that was seeker-oriented *à la* Willow Creek to one that was intentional about making its members and adherents disciples. In the process, attendance plummeted, but there is no doubt on the part of the authors that the pain involved in that and no longer being a mega-church is worth it all. While easy to read, the book is a frontal attack on the superficiality that grips large segments of North American Evangelicalism where the rank-and-file are dominated by a consumerist mentality and the leadership are happy to go along as long as it fulfills their personal ambitions of being seen as successful. The honesty of the authors is refreshing as well as their refusal to give a three-part, or whatever-part, formula of how to do such a transition. Their simple desire is to be serious in their following Jesus and communicate that to the community of which they are a part. May God multiply their breed!