

BRAND: New

Letting Go

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Note: The following content is a raw transcript and has not been edited for grammar, punctuation, or word usage.

Well, today we begin a brand new series and we completely ran out of titles, so we're just calling it "Brand New." How's that? Yeah, actually, about 20 years ago, we began a brand new church and for those of you who are here with me today, you're sitting in it. And for those of you who are at our other campuses, you're sitting in churches that we continued to create all around the city and all around the country. And if you're watching on television or online, you need to know that we're not just a church, we're a whole bunch of churches and we are committed to creating churches that unchurch people love to attend, that's what we do. And we might have a church in your neighborhood and you have permission to do this while I'm talking, if you go to northpointpartners.org, you can see if we have a church in your neighborhood or in your city, we would love to join you... For you to join us in an actual bricks and mortar environment. If not, you can just continue to watch online or television.

00:47 S1: But 20 years ago, we started a new church, but we started a different kind of church. And we started a whole bunch of those different kinds of churches. And it wasn't just us, there's a whole movement in our country, and in parts of Europe and Canada, where church planners decided, "Hey, let's dispense with all the stuff that gets in the way, and let's just try to make it a little bit raw and a little bit more community." And so, if you notice there are churches that pop up everywhere, in every mall, in every dark retail space, no more steeples, no more pews, they were uncomfortable. Besides, you put your Bible on one side and your purse on the other and you never filled up the space. They were hard to sit on, the preachers preached too long back then. Preachers preach shorter sermons now, thought I might've get amen for that. No more stained glass. The reason there's no more stained glass, it's expensive and it's expensive to insure, and you have put plastic stuff up and it kind of messes the whole idea of stained glass up.

01:35 S1: But the church has completely changed, and most of you haven't paid attention to that 'cause you have real jobs and are raising kids. And I don't have anything to do, so I've paid attention to this over the last 20 years. And those of you who have been on this church journey with us, you may not have known this, but you have been on the cutting edge. We have kind of led the way with some other very well known church leaders all over the country to create these different kinds of churches where it's more about creating environments. You know how you go into a church, when I was a kid and I was, grew up in, church it was concrete painted walls. I mean, you could hurt yourself in there, and then they would tape stuff up on the wall. Now you walk into children's areas, even in setup tear-down churches, and the children's areas are like Disney or something. So, it's more about environments. Worship services are more like concert venues, there's no more windows, we don't want any natural light. We want moving lights and smoke, and all kinds of stuff. And if you...

02:27 S1: Isn't it interesting? If you're on any kind of social media and somebody talks about their