

# 10 COMMANDMENTS FOR CHURCH WEBSITES

Worship Times is a group of ministers and church leaders helping ministries and churches create easy-to-use websites. We've put together what we consider the top 10 Commandments to remember while working on your church website along with some tips to help y'all out. If you have any questions or want to talk to us about a specific website, contact us at [support@worshiptimes.org](mailto:support@worshiptimes.org).

## 1) Thou shalt put needed info right up front

You have 3-4 seconds to capture a visitor's attention. The number one things visitors are looking for is your physical address and worship service times. Put those somewhere at the top of your homepage.

## 2) Thou shalt be on thy website who God is calling thou to be in the world

Many potential visitors will be looking at your website, and they'll be expecting what you say on the website to match what they see in worship or other church activities. If your church has crafted a mission statement (1-2 sentences) be sure to have it on your home page.

## 3) Thou shalt use pictures that show thy community in action

Both visitors and long time attenders want to see the people in the worshiping community doing something, not just the outside of your building or a staged photo of your pastor. Take pictures of worship services, coffee hour, mission involvement, anything! Use higher resolution pictures to make an impact.

## 4) Thou shalt keep it short

It's tempting to want everything that can be on a website on your website, but it's better to focus on a few things. Simple, brief, and streamlined is better than cluttered, long, and clunky especially on the homepage.

## 5) Thy website shalt be mobile-friendly

Many people use their phones to access information on-the-go, including looking up churches and worship times. If your website looks great on a computer but doesn't function on a phone, visitors may pass you up.

## 6) Thy website is never done

It takes a lot of effort to build a website, and it's tempting to think it's done after you launch. Just like your church continues to listen to the Spirit and grow, your website needs to reflect that growth. Regular updates, new pictures, and fresh content are a key part of this. And you may need to occasionally change your design (we can do that, too). Designs go out of style pretty quickly—expect your website to be considered “old” every few years. If you can't afford a custom website, don't be afraid to use a nice pre-designed [theme or template](#) that can be jazzed up a bit.

**7) Thou shalt be thoughtful about using social media**

You don't need to jump on every new form of social media that comes out. Focus on a couple that can really build up the communication between community members like [Facebook](#) and [Google+](#). If your church leadership can't explain clearly why the church is on a certain social media site, it's time to re-think how you're spending your digital energy.

**8) Thou shalt keep thy calendar up-to-date**

There's nothing more frustrating than showing up to worship or another event at the wrong time especially for visitors. Just a few hours a month spent double checking and updating dates and times of events on the website can make a big difference. Be sure any Facebook events are updated as well.

**9) Thou shalt focus on ministry**

Don't get caught up in thinking about your website 24/7. Focus on ministry and people and relationships. A website should help that, not be the focus of unending committee meetings or arguments.

**10) Thou shalt ask for help**

As scripture reminds us, the Body of Christ has many parts; and we all serve a different roles in ministries. Don't be afraid to ask someone who is tech-savvy for help. Worship Time has a bunch of people who specialize in support who would be happy to help. Contact us at [support@worshiptimes.org](mailto:support@worshiptimes.org) and keep an eye on our [blog](#).



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