

A Guide to Evernote for Pastors

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INTRODUCTION

A NOTE TO THE PASTOR

I don't develop software. I'm not an IT guy. I'm not a technology pastor. I don't consult with others about information systems. Rather, I'm a pastor.

This eBook began with my personal appetite to use technology to support my ministry. In the midst of countless conversations among friends and peers about this new tool called Evernote, it occurred to me that there might be many more who would greatly benefit from this unbelievable tool.

I didn't set out to write a user manual. There are others available that will do just that. My goal is to introduce you to how I use Evernote in my ministry. My hope is not that

you'll do everything just as I do it, because you are your own person. My desire is that through sharing how I use this tool, your imagination will help you use Evernote to maximize your ministry opportunity.

It's been a few years since I stumbled upon Evernote. Honestly, I didn't know what to do with it the first time I logged in. I wish someone had written this eBook for me. Nevertheless, it has become a valuable asset to me and my ministry. You'll learn how in the coming pages!

God bless,
Ron Edmondson

1 THE PRODUCT

I personally believe in simple . . .

When I'm working on my blog, I use *WordPress*. It's easy and simple most of the time, but when techies start throwing out terms like "SEO" and "Permalinks," it soon goes over my head. I'm a pastor. I want to spend more time studying and teaching than I spend managing a church budget. When it comes to my blog, I want to spend more time writing stuff that helps people than figuring out how to make it "optimized" (whatever that means).

This eBook is written with you, the pastor, in mind. This is not a technical journal. My hope is that Evernote will prove to be a useful tool, or resource, for making you a better minister. We pastors deal with lots of information on a daily basis. I often remind my church that if they want to make sure I remember something they tell me on Sunday, they should back it up with an e-mail. The same is true of my own thoughts. Some days there are so many meetings, with so many different thought processes, that I simply can't keep up with everything.

In the past, I struggled with how to collect all the information I needed in one place. I tried notebooks, pocket calendars, and Moleskine journals. I tried every numbering and filing system you can imagine. I tried the best Word and Google have to offer. But I needed something where I could keep everything—without fear of losing the information yet simple enough to use every day and available wherever I was at. (Strong enough for a pastor but gentle enough to use everyday . . . almost sounds like a deodorant commercial, doesn't it?)

That's why I fell in love with Evernote!

I need something easy to use that is always accessible, reliable, and—especially because I'm also a church planter—free or affordable! I can't tell you how excited I was when I discovered Evernote! It has changed the way I organize my life. Because I know the life of a pastor, I know that your life is chaotic at times. I'm hoping you'll be equally impressed with the benefits of Evernote.