

1  **The Emerging Church**

2  **The emerging church movement has arisen out of dissatisfaction with both modernism and evangelicalism.**

- The emergent movement may be described as a Christian adaptation of postmodernism.
  - In reaction to modernists' seeking truth through reason, postmodernists emphasize that truth is not cannot be reliably known.
  - Postmodernists emphasize the importance of relationships and multiple perspectives, none of which may be said to be *absolutely* correct.

3

- Emergents generally hold to traditional Christian doctrines and moral values, but are often unwilling to take a firm stand on some of them.
- Emergents emphasize loving relationships with God and with others.
- While not necessarily disagreeing with evangelical moral values, emergents tend to place more emphasis on such issues as helping the needy.

4

- Controversy has embroiled the emergent movement, as some have emphasized the need to be firmly founded on Biblical truth in opposition to those who are unwilling to make absolute statements of belief.