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## The Credibility Crisis of Today's Pastors <sup>[1]</sup>

*from Barna Group - 17 March 2017*

**The good news: Most people don't dislike pastors.**

**The bad news: They just don't really care about pastors either.**

% of Americans who feel clergy  
are of some benefit to the public



66%

**Barna**

[www.barna.com](http://www.barna.com)

% of Americans who hold a  
“very positive” opinion of pastors



24%

**Barna**

[www.barna.com](http://www.barna.com)

In Barna’s The State of Pastors <sup>[2]</sup> report, produced in partnership with Pepperdine University, the reception of pastors was generally lukewarm. One-quarter of all U.S. adults (24%) holds a very positive opinion of pastors in general. Meanwhile, roughly the same proportion reports a negative opinion (28% “somewhat” + “very” negative). Similarly, one-quarter of the population has little regard for the pastoral influence in their city or neighborhood (23% “not very” + “not at all” influential), while one in five adults (19%) goes so far as to call pastors very influential.

See the full report <sup>[3]</sup>

## Reftagger

```
var refTagger = { settings: { bibleVersion: "ESV" } }; (function(d, t) { var g = d.createElement(t),  
s = d.getElementsByTagName(t)[0]; g.src = "//api.reftagger.com/v2/RefTagger.js";  
s.parentNode.insertBefore(g, s); })(document, "script");
```

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**Links**

[1] <https://affirm.net.nz/content/credibility-crisis-today%E2%80%99s-pastors>

[2] <https://www.barna.com/product/stateofpastors/>

[3] [https://www.barna.com/research/credibility-crisis-todays-pastors/?utm\\_source=Barna+Update+List&utm\\_campaign=6eb74d35e8-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2017\\_16\\_3&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_8560a0e52e-6eb74d35e8-180496329&mc\\_cid=6eb74d35e8&mc\\_eid=0f831a56af](https://www.barna.com/research/credibility-crisis-todays-pastors/?utm_source=Barna+Update+List&utm_campaign=6eb74d35e8-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_16_3&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_8560a0e52e-6eb74d35e8-180496329&mc_cid=6eb74d35e8&mc_eid=0f831a56af)