

The Relationship between Religious Support and Flourishing among Ethiopian Evangelicals

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Introduction

In Ethiopia, Evangelical Christians constitute about 20%. Church ministries mostly are conventional. It is not clear if their faith, other members, and church leaders are helping them to experience human flourishing. This study endeavors to find the relationship between religious support and human flourishing.

Research Question

How are the three practices of religious support of Ethiopian Evangelical churches related to the socio-psychological well-being of their congregants?

God Support is the highest contributor to human flourishing to Ethiopian Evangelical Christians, followed by Congregational and Church Leadership Support.

Discussion and Conclusion

Consistent to the literature, religious support predicted human flourishing. Of the three IVs, God Support is the highest contributor to flourishing. This shows that Ethiopian Evangelicals have satisfactory relationship with God, that could be evidenced in trusting him and praying during pressing moments. The lesser but significant contribution of the support from church leaders and other members implies an emphasis on spiritual dimension.

Methodology

- 30 local churches of 5 denominations
- Five cities
- 932 respondents
- RSS and FS
- Descriptive statistics and simultaneous multiple regression

Variables	Human Flourishing (DV)	God Support	Leadership Support	Congregational Support	B	b	sr ² (unique)
God Support	.46				6.317	.37	.13
Leadership Support	.35	.25			1.001	.13	.01
Congregational Support	.38	.31	.79		1.313	.16	.01
Mean	45.76	4.68	3.65	3.67			
SD	5.50	.33	.74	.66			

R² = .28^a

Adjusted R² = .28

R = .53

p < .01

a. Unique variability = .15; shared variability = .13



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