

Google AI Summary of Christianity Today Articles on Neurodivergent

Christianity Today frequently covers neurodiversity, emphasizing that including neurodivergent individuals (autism, ADHD, etc.) is essential to church ministry, not just an "accommodation." Recent articles argue for welcoming environments, supporting families through specialized parenting approaches, and moving beyond "special needs" to true belonging.

Key themes and articles regarding neurodiversity in Christianity Today include:

1. **Church Inclusion & Worship:** Research indicates that churches often fail families with children on the autism spectrum, leading to lower attendance. Other articles highlight how churches are adapting, with some researchers exploring how to create inclusive worship that accommodates sensory needs (e.g., shushes, singing, and shouting).
 2. **Theology of Disability:** Authors, such as Sandra Peoples, argue that welcoming neurodivergent people is part of the "imago Dei" (image of God). Instead of viewing disabilities as problems to solve, churches should view them as unique reflections of God's glory.
 3. **Parenting & Personal Narratives:** Articles discuss the "before and after" experience of receiving an autism diagnosis for a child and the need for communities to support, rather than stigmatize, these families. Gentle parenting, rooted in faith and understanding, is proposed as a way to raise neurodivergent children with wisdom.
 4. **Neurotheology Debate:** Some discussions explore the intersection of neuroscience and faith, warning against *neurotheology* that may misrepresent the relationship between the human brain and the soul.
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