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Today: Life Surge Attendance Drops by Half as Christian Seminar Buys 16 Million Dollar Headquarters

A true story of faith under pressure. Read the first half below, then continue online.

KEY SPIRITUAL TAKEAWAY

"Pablo Torre Finds Out"

(Transliterated from the original Hindi.)

They had gathered only to pray. When prayer itself becomes the target, faith is proved not by words but by staying.

The Story - Part One

Life Surge, the controversial touring faith-based wealth-building seminar, has moved into a new corporate headquarters at 908 Riverside Drive in Palmetto, Florida - a 50,000-square-foot office building purchased for $16 million - even as attendance at its events has fallen by more than half. Events averaged around 4,000 attendees in the first five months of 2026, but this fall the average dropped to under 2,000 per event. The new headquarters sits about six miles from the company's previous address.

Hold those two facts side by side for a moment, because the contrast is the story. On one side: a gleaming new building, fifty thousand square feet of it, bought for sixteen million dollars. On the other: half-empty seminar halls, dozens of staff shown the door, and famous names quietly walking away.

A company in trouble does not usually buy a palace. Life Surge just did.

The fall in attendance followed the Mother Jones and "Pablo Torre Finds Out" investigation that began in late September, according to reporter Kiera Butler, speaking on the Christian Post podcast. Before the investigation, the halls were full. After it, the crowds thinned fast - and the high-ticket back-end classes suffered most.

The "Surge U" training packages cost upwards of $10,000, with some reports putting the price as high as $40,000. In one impact class, 275 people showed up and two-thirds were gone by day two. Sales, Butler said, were "dismal."

Think about what that scene must have felt like. A room of 275 Christians who had already paid thousands of dollars, sitting through a sales pitch for courses costing thousands more - and most of them walking out before the second day.

The layoffs followed the same pattern. At least 85 people - more than half the staff - have been let go in waves since early Novemeber, a figure discussed at a company-wide meeting on 10 November. Annual events are being cut from 32-36 down to about a dozen in 2027.

An affiliated entity, Life Surge Capital LLC, was registered at the new Palmetto address on 14 September 2026, just as the investigation was about to break.

The Turning Point - What Happens Next

The story reaches a life-changing moment that changes everything -- and what seemed like the end is only the middle. Two reports disagree on the numbers, and one question is left unanswered: will the CCTV footage ever come out? Read the full story to find out what happens next.

PERSONAL REFLECTION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When gathering to pray carries a real cost, what keeps a community coming together anyway -- and what would keep you coming?

2. The pastor's sister shielded him with her own body and fainted under the blows. What does costly, self-giving love look like in your own family or church?

3. When justice is delayed and a complaint is withdrawn under threat, how do believers hold on to truth without giving in to fear -- or to hatred?

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