

EVANGELISM IN THE CHURCH

Post-Pandemic...Sound the Alarm

INTRODUCTION

This topic is being used because an alarm needs to be sounded in the church concerning evangelism – post-pandemic. However, the alarm does not need to be sounded because of what the pandemic did to the church and evangelism. The true reason is because the problem with the church as it relates to evangelism is the same problem the church had before, during the worst of, and continuing into this stage of the pandemic; evangelism simply isn't being done.

As a whole, the American church is not interested in evangelism and simply refuses to do it. There's no problem with the message or the methods; the problem is the lack of motivation from Christians in the church to evangelize. Again, simply put, Christians simply refuse to do it. What's the answer? That's the purpose of this session today.

- I. We must fix the church. It needs revival, renovation, refocusing and redirection. Do you get the picture? That's why the alarm needs to be sounded concerning evangelism in the church. The church is sick!!!

Let's look at some statistics from Life Way Research and some of its resources on the church in the U. S. and throughout the world.

CHURCHES IN THE U. S.

39.9 % of churches in the U. S. have 50 members or less
24.4% of churches in the U. S. have 51-100 members
20.1% of churches in the U. S. have 101-250 members
9.9% of churches in the U. S. have 251-1000 members
2.6% of churches in the U. S. have 1000+ members

CHURCH ATTENDANCE IN THE U. S.

23% of people in the U. S. attend church weekly
19% of people in the U. S. attend church monthly
29% of people in the U. S. attend church rarely
30% of people in the U. S. attend church never
Simply put, we need more workers for the Lord – Matt. 9:35-38; Luke 10:1-3

BIBLE READING IN THE U. S.

32% of people in the U. S. read the Bible daily
29% of people in the U. S. read the Bible a few times a week
12% of people in the U. S. read the Bible once a week
11% of people in the U. S. read the Bible a few times a month
5% of people in the U. S. read the Bible once a month

12% of people in the U. S. read the Bible rarely or never

THE LENGTH OF THE TYPICAL SERMON IN THE U. S.

31% of sermons are 20 minutes or less

54% of sermons are 20 minutes but less than 40 minutes

14% of sermons are more than 40 minutes

EVANGELISM

(In the past six months how many times did you share with someone how to become a Christian...which is what evangelism is)

55% of Christians in the U. S. --- 0 times

24% of Christians --- 1 or 2 times

12% of Christians --- 3-5 times

5% of Christians --- 6-10 times

1% of Christians --- 11-15 times

3% of Christians --- 16 times or more

As you can see from these statistics, as it relates to evangelism and the church, the church needs fixing.

- II. The simple, but extensive and life long, fix of the church: DO THE JOB CHRIST (THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH) GAVE THE CHURCH TO DO AND FOCUS ON THOSE THINGS!
 - a. Worship the Lord – Matt. 4:10; John 4:23-24. The Greek word translated worship in vs 10, 23, & 24 means ‘to prostrate oneself in homage to God; to kiss (like a dog licking his master’s hand). Serve in v 10 means basically the same in the Greek ‘to render religious homage to God. Homage means ‘to show deep honor, respect, reverence and allegiance’.
 - b. To help bring sinners into the kingdom of God through salvation in Jesus Christ – John 3:16; Luke 19:10; Matt. 28:19 - This is evangelism. Helping the lost with their needs and infirmities is used in the process to help them be saved. This should be our ultimate aim with the needy.
 - c. Once saved, helping the saved to now follow Jesus, learn of Jesus, obey Jesus, and have abundant life in Jesus – Matt. 28:20; 11:28-30; John 10:10; Eph. 4:11-16 - This is discipleship and Christian education. The many other programs and ministries that the church engages in are used to carry this out.
- III. When the church and the Christian are fixed (healthy in relationship with Christ and practice of His teaching), evangelism will be a natural and automatic work for them – Acts 1:8 – As it relates to our session, this is what is necessary for post-pandemic evangelism...

JUST DO IT 