

DON'T CALL IT A COMEBACK

Part 3: How to Share Your Faith

WEEK OF JUNE 20, 2021

What is the church? What is the purpose of the church? Ultimately, church isn't just an institution "for us." How can we share it and our faith with everyone around us?

MESSAGE NOTES AND HIGHLIGHTS

- What's the best way we can help our church fully follow Jesus today and in the days to come?
 - Church = ekklesia = a gathering of those who are called
 - "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind'. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" | Matthew 22:37-39
 - What is the church? A gathering of people. What is the purpose of the church? Loving God and loving the people around us.
 - What if the best way to reach every person in our city is for each of us to focus on reaching every person in our circle?
 - So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" | 2 Corinthians 5:20
 - According to Gallup: those who trust the kid church dropped from 66% to 36% from 1985 to 2019. According to a study by Barna in 2020, only 27% of non-churchgoers thought church had a very positive impact.
 - People will always turn to those in their lives who they know care for them, who are in their corner.
 - How to share your faith - BLESS.
 - B = Be in prayer. Be in prayer for the people in your lives.
 - L = Listen. Listen to and learn about people's history, heart, habits, and hurts.
 - E = Eat. Share meals together.
 - S = Serve. Serve in your community, and invite others to join.
 - S = Story. Share your story of what God's done in your life.
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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. The majority of non-churchgoers think that church doesn't have a very positive impact. What opportunity (or responsibility) does that provide for each of us to demonstrate the contrary?
2. How comfortable (or not) are you sharing your faith with your friends, family, and coworkers?
3. "People will always turn to those in their lives who know they care for them and are in their corner." How true is that statement based on your own experiences?
4. Of the 5 categories of BLESS (Be in prayer, Listen, Eat, Serve, Story), which are you best at? Which could you improve or strengthen?
5. Who in your life would benefit from you sharing your faith with them? What can you do this week to invest in that relationship?