

(continued from the front)

For decades, we've cultivated generations of "Christians" who know how to clock in for that one hour on Sunday morning. They grew up in the church building. Their parents were faithful. Their grandfather may have been an elder or deacon. Their family name carries weight in the congregation. And for them, Christianity has become more of a heritage than a personal conviction.

We have third- and fourth-generation "Christians" who know how to take the Lord's Supper, bow their heads during prayer, and find Acts 2:38 with record speed—but who, outside of that single hour on Sunday morning, are firmly anchored in the world. They talk like the world, act like the world, and pursue earthly pleasures like the world.

Let's be blunt: we have unconverted people sitting in the church building every week. And the worst part? We keep pretending they're spiritually alive just because of their family history and because they still "clock in" for an hour each week.

"But my parents are faithful." We have allowed Satan to convince people that faith can be inherited, like a family recipe passed down through the generations. But Scripture shatters that lie: "The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father" (Ezekiel 18:20). Your parents' faith does not save you. Your grandfather's eldership does not cleanse your sins. Your family legacy will not stand with you on Judgment Day.

Christianity is not genetic. It's not hereditary. It is a personal surrender to Jesus Christ. It's a lifestyle, not an hour. Yet many in our pews rest easy in spiritual autopilot. As long as they show up, sit down, and stay quiet—they think everything is fine. But there's no prayer life. No Bible reading. No holiness. No conviction. No repentance. No transformation. No fruit. Just a familiar routine. Just religious muscle memory.

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Maybe We Should Start Evangelizing the Unconverted in Our Own Churches



In many congregations across America, we've become experts at spotting "the lost" out there in the world—those who don't look like us, don't worship like us, or don't speak our religious language. We talk often about evangelizing our neighbors, coworkers, and communities. But maybe—just maybe—it's time we take a sobering, honest look inward. Because the mission field might actually be sitting in our pews every single Sunday.

(continued on the back)

Elders

Ron Akers
Phil Degelia
Tim Simmons

Deacons

Mike Fox
(Building and Grounds)
Jeff Kiel
(Building and Grounds)
Dean Rosser
(Safety)
Roland Snipes
(Benevolence)
Keith Tolbert
(Education)

Minister

Bryan Winn

Secretary

Carrie DePass