

The Secret To Adding Two Families

Look at these statistics from the American Institute for Church Growth. They did a poll in which they asked 10,000 people the following question :

“What was responsible for you coming to Christ and to this church?” The responses were as follows :

- I had special need ... 2%
- I just walked in ... 3%
- I like the minister ... 6%
- I visited there ... 1%
- I like the Bible classes ... 5%
- I attended a Gospel meeting ... 5%
- I liked the programs ... 3%
- A friend or relative invited me ... 79%

By this scientific data we can clearly see that the key to church growth is the same today as it has been for the past 2000 years. If we want other people to be brought to Christ we're going to have to be the ones to invite them. If we want the people we invite to come and to become a Christian, we're going to have to develop a relationship with them prior to our inviting them to come with us.

Advertising is valuable and needed to develop name recognition as well as to inform people about special events, but churches do not add member by any indirect means. Fully 80% of those who are brought to Christ are first brought to church by someone they know.

Thus, I challenge us all : If you bring them in, we'll teach them in a kind and loving way. They will not be attacked or be embarrassed in any way, but you will be giving them an opportunity to hear the gospel proclaimed and to be saved. Who are you developing as your prospect ?

Are you ready, willing and able to stand up and be counted for Christ ? We have set a goal of reaching two new families with the gospel this year. This is a very achievable goal, but only if each of us has the courage and the faith to seek opportunities to invite people to church and to ask people to study the bible with us. I'm willing to teach anyone with whom you can arrange an appointment. Do you have the courage to speak up !? ([Read .. Matt. 10: 32-33](#)) w

