

## Make Christianity Great Again: Recovering a Jesus Centered Faith

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### Nones and Church Attendance

- 2014 - 23% no religious affiliation (was 16% in 2007)
- 35% of Millennials are “nones”
- Reported Church attendance now 38%, was 42% just a few years ago
- Actual Church Attendance near 16-18%
- 5-7% here in the Sacramento Region

### Biblical Worldview

**Barna:** 91% of born-again adults and 98% of born-again teenagers do not have a Biblical worldview.

**Billy Graham:** *“I’ve preached too much, and studied too little.”*

“If I could have only one wish for God’s people, it would be that all of us would return to the Word of God, that we would realize that His Book has the answers. The Bible is the authority, the final resting place of our cares, worries, griefs, tragedies, sorrows, and our surprises. It is the final answer to our questions, our search.” (Chuck Swindoll)

### Smart People Still Follow Jesus . . .

Smart People who follow Jesus have made a specific decision that objective truth does exist, that God has revealed Himself, that The Bible is God’s Written revelation, and that Jesus is God revealing Himself in human form. Those beliefs have consequences.

### Smart People Still Follow Jesus:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jc\\_JWj\\_OW8Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jc_JWj_OW8Y)

### 1 Corinthians 15:1-8

- Jesus died for our sins
- He was buried and raised on the 3rd day
- He appeared to the apostles, and to over 500 (Acts 1:3. . . tekmerion/convincing proofs)

### A Biblical View of Jesus

Jesus is God incarnate (in the flesh).

*John 1:14*

Jesus is God’s perfect substitute sin offering.

*1 John 3:5, 1 Peter 2:22*

Jesus is the only mediator between God and mankind.

*John 14:6, 1 Timothy 2:3-6a*

Jesus offers life to those who believe.

*1 John 5:11-12*

Jesus gave us His Holy Spirit to empower us to live for the glory to God.

*John 16:12-15, Romans 8:9-11*

Jesus commanded us to witness to the world and be salt and light.

*Matthew 5:13-16, Matthew 28:19-20*

Jesus announced and revealed the Kingdom of God, which is our first citizenship.

*Luke 11:20, 19:11, 1 Peter 2:9-17*

### 4 Cornerstone Biblical Principles for Effective Witness in a Hostile Environment:

**Make a beeline for Jesus.** Jesus said, “. . .when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men to myself.” (John 12:32) Lift Him up!

**Let your light shine so that God gets the glory.**

“Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)

**Be a grace-filled person.** “Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.” (Colossians 4:6-7)

**Be bold and gentle.** “But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.” (1Peter 3:16)