

"The harvest indeed is plenteous, but the laborers are few ..."
Matthew 9:35-38

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What Is My Responsibility To The Lost?

1. Those who have never heard the truth. **"Go preach ..."** Mark 16:15ff; 1 Timothy 3:15; Acts 8:4. **"... in season, out of season"** 2 Timothy 4:2
2. Those who have heard it and not obeyed. **"Exhort them ..."** Acts 2
3. Those who have obeyed and then erred from the truth. **"Restore ..."** Galatians 6
4. Do not become **"Weary ..."** Galatians 6:9; 2 Thessalonians 3:13; Hebrews 12:3; Revelation 2:3

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"Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services? More than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, or never?"

54 % of Americans say they attend religious services a few times a year or less.
 45% say they attend at least monthly.

In U.S., church attendance is declining
 % of U.S. adults who say they attend religious services ...

Year	NET Monthly or more	NET A few times a year or less
2007	47%	54%
2009	47%	52%
2014	50%	50%
2018/19	45%	54%

Source: Pew Research Center Religious Landscape Studies (2007 and 2014). Aggregated Pew Research Center political surveys conducted 2009 July 2019 on the telephone.
 "In U.S., Decline of Christianity Continues at Rapid Pace"
 PEW RESEARCH CENTER

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In 2009, there were approximately 233 million adults in the U.S., according to the Census Bureau. Pew Research Center's RDD surveys conducted at the time indicated that 77% of them were Christian, which means that by this measure, there were approximately 178 million Christian adults in the U.S. in 2009.

In 2019 there are roughly 23 million more adults in the U.S. than there were in 2009 (256 million as of July 1, 2019). About two-thirds of them (65%) identify as Christians, (according to 2018 and 2019 Pew Research Center RDD estimates.) This means that there are now roughly 167 million Christian adults in the U.S.

Estimated number of U.S. adults, in millions

Year	Total U.S. Adults (Millions)	Christians (Millions)	Christians (%)
2009	178	178	77%
2019	256	167	65%

Source: Pew Research Center RDD estimates.
 "In U.S., Decline of Christianity Continues at Rapid Pace"
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In U.S., number of religious 'nones' has grown by nearly 30 million over past decade

Even with a 23 million increase in adult population

Meanwhile, the number of religiously unaffiliated adults "Religious Nones" in the U.S. grew by **almost 30 million** over this period. (39 million to 68 million).

Estimated number of U.S. adults, in millions

Year	Religiously Unaffiliated (Millions)
2009	39
2019	68

Source: Aggregated Pew Research Center political surveys conducted 2009 and January 2018 July 2019 on the telephone. Population figures calculated from U.S. Census estimates of the adult population.
 "In U.S., Decline of Christianity Continues at Rapid Pace"
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Not Anything New

Why such little interest?

- *Cares of the world.* Luke 8:14
- *Gospel demands changes – love darkness.* John 3:19
- *False sense of security.* Jeremiah 6:14; 8:11
- *Not popular.* Matthew 7:13-14; John 1:11-12; 6:66

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What Can I Do?

- **Our job – not to convert, but teach**
 - *Command is to teach.* **Mark 16:15**
 - *Even if don't listen – do our job!*
Ezekiel 2:8ff ;3:16-21; Isaiah 50:4-9; Jeremiah 9:1ff
 - *Jesus taught – many turned away.*
John 1:11-12
 - *Crowds rejected the apostles.* **Acts 13:45; 17:32; cf. 2 Corinthians 11:23ff**

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What Can I Do?

The “unlikely” just may listen and obey

- *Religious/Gentile – Cornelius.* **Acts 10**
- *Non-Religious – Simon.* **Acts 8:9-13**
- *Worldly – Corinthians.* **Acts 18:8; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11**
- *Ignorant - Jews.* **Acts 2:23; 3:17**
- *Gentiles.* **Acts 17:22ff**
- *Persecutor – Saul.* **Acts 8:3; 9:1-2; 1 Timothy 1:15**
- *Politician – Jailor.* **Acts 16:31-33**

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What Can I Do?

- **View The World As Lost.**
 - *All men are sinners.* **Romans 3:9, 23**
 - *Sin separates from God.* **Isaiah 59:1-2**
 - *If die in sin – lost.* **Romans 6:23; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9**
 - *Reason Jesus came to earth.* **Luke 19:10**

Anyone who has not obeyed the gospel is lost because he is a sinner!

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