

Help the new Christians stay in the faith and keep coming to church. This means we need to.....

# KEEP CONNETCED TO THE NEW CONVERTS

They are important

People who are new to the faith need certain things to help them feel like they belong and are wanted. They also need to find spiritual support systems that can be offered to them.

## GROUNDING

Grounding in knowledge: If you helped bring someone to the faith, either coordinate with the preacher, Bible class teacher, etc. to meet up with them at your house or someone else's to study or set up a one on one, group or family study with them. Studies should be consistent each week and should first deal with grounding principles. Secondary focus, this helps to get to know the new Christians and helps them build bonds and feel welcome. Groups can keep going for years. New people can be added, new materials can be taught. The class does not need to stop just because the element truths have been shared. Classes help to keep a Christian strong in doctrine and build bonds with the saints. This does not have a time limit.

Grounding in behavior: If you or someone you know is doing weekly or monthly spiritual activities, try to coordinate these events for the new Christian. Invite them to participate. Whether it's a Bible study, evangelism event, pot luck encouragement meeting, visitation of sick/elderly, devotional singing at a person's house, church work day, meal preparation for a person injured, making communion, etc., include/invite them to join and help.

Go to the "duty roster" person, who schedules church activities, ask if they could include the new Christian in basic duties, like, preparing the Lord's supper bread, teaching the little kids, passing the Lord's plate, praying, etc. Include the person, see if they are interested, then try to get the ball rolling with the "duty roster" guy. Note: Not everyone will step up. Duty roster guys included. If they don't use the new converts to help them grow in church work, then remember their plenty of outside church activities that can be created to help the new Christian.

These items are important for the following reasons, it spiritually strengthens their spirit in the Word and their spirit in spiritual activities, which helps them grow and remain faithful. These actives help build bonds of spiritual support with other saints. Friendships can help a new Christian remain strong.

## HOSPITALITY

### PERSONAL

Home Bible studies can be included with the following. Hospitality, like going out to eat with a new Christian on a Sunday afternoon, is important. Talking with them at church is needed, for a

church to grow, but interactions need to be done outside of church as well. If possible, once a week or once a month, invite a new Christian to your home or out to eat on a Sunday afternoon or Wednesday evening, after church, with just you or a few other saints/friends.

## **GROUPS**

When a church has active members, who get groups together (for all church members, including new converts) to encourage each other, for B days, 4th of July parties, Halloween, New Year's Eve gatherings, Bible studies, devotional singings, etc., this builds friendships with spiritual Christians and helps connect people to each other.

Can include kid, teen and college groups for just these ages.

But these activities, especially when they are coupled with the grounding themes above, help to create faithfulness through these spiritual bonding formats.

## **CHURCH GROUP**

Potlucks once a year or every blue moon, don't bond members as well, as once a month. Frequency matters. People who never see each other outside of church and view each other as strangers, are a people whose church will die out. Churches that have members who lead get together, like pot lucks, college gatherings, encouragement group meetings, devotional singings, etc, help build friendships with spiritual Christians and helps connect people to each other.

Spiritual events and even social events by members of the church help foster a atmosphere of love.

## **CHURCH ACTIVITIES TO DO TO HELP ENCOURAGE NEW CONVERTS (CHRISTIANS IN GENERAL)**

- When church Sunday school ends and worship ends, take 5 minutes to look for a stranger, someone discouraged or a new Christian and talk with them.
- When you see someone, who is struggling who is not at church or someone who has not been to church the last few services or a new Christian who was absent, call, text, write them to let them know they were missed.
- "Encouragement groups" can write cards to those who are needing them. This can be done in a monthly potluck setting or after evening church service on a Sunday or Wednesday, each week.
- Rehash: Get them involved in church duties/or outside Christian activities.
- Rehash: Be hospitable to new Christians by creating an event to do someone with them or include them in an event.
- Rehash: Ground them weekly in a class your teaching or get together a group, for the preacher/teacher to lead a class at your home.

NOTE: A lot of these idea's are good in many ways for unsaved teens of Christian parents, or for weak Christians, or for visitors, in helping them to not slip through the cracks.