

## HOW TO REFORM A SLUGGISH CHURCH

Act 2:47 ... "...And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved."

"Sluggish" is a word you may not often use. It means a person that is not active or enthusiastic; someone who drags him or herself around with no goal or energy. A church can be sluggish if it has little life, no goals, no energy, and is filled with people who drag themselves to church out of a sense of duty rather than anticipation. Every member – not just the pastor – shares responsibility for the church failing to do what God instructs it to do, which is to glorify him and increase the number of people going to Heaven. You can give your church a simple test to see if it is sluggish. Ask yourself these questions:

1. Does my church have a formal plan to evangelize the community/Barangay/Municipality in which it is located?
2. Is evangelism the number one priority for my church?
3. Are a significant number of the members of my church actively involved in sharing their faith with people outside the church, visiting the homes of non-members, inviting and escorting people to church, conducting youth events, leading Bible studies, etc.?
4. Is the pastor teaching us how to share our faith and win souls?
5. Does my church welcome visitors and strangers by escorting them inside, introducing them to other members, and making certain a friendly member sits with them?

If you cannot answer most of these questions with "yes," then you should consider leading an effort within your church to influence its obedience to Christ. First, pray for God to open the eyes of your pastor and fellow members. Second, speak – gently and respectfully – to your pastor about your desire to help develop a formal evangelism plan for your church. Third, inspire your pastor and fellow members by actively evangelizing and bringing visitors to church. When you bring people to church, you will be seen as a leader and become an inspiration to others to do the same.

A sluggish or idle church can be transformed by even one person who is obedient to Christ. A church that has no plan to save souls outside its walls, is just going through the motions. We must do better than that. Get involved. Lead the revolution. Be the spark that ignites your church to be on fire for God and obedient to Christ by winning souls for the Kingdom.

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