

A weekly idea, program or perspective on reaching new people in your community

Most research indicates that at least 80% of churches in this country are in decline. Dan Turner, who with Greg Wiens, wrote the book, [Dying to Restart](#), described his church before they did a radical restart:

"The truth was that our mission more closely resembled a museum than it did a church. The stained glass was beautiful. The history was inspiring, and the brass plaques kept the memory of the past people and organizations alive. But lives weren't being changed. Disciples were not being made. We were not sending out individuals to start new churches or ministries. Our community wasn't being transformed. We had little to no ministry to speak of."

If this sounds like your church, I want to strongly encourage you to get some outside help to look at your current situation and make some faithful choices for your future. It is extremely difficult for church members who are leading a declining church to honestly look at where their church is. When the mission becomes survival, it is very hard to make changes without some help from someone who can put some fresh eyes on the situation.

So if your church is in decline and not producing "fruit", pray about it and have the courage to say "we need some help" in reversing this downward trend. Less than 20% of people in this country go anywhere to church. We need congregations that can reverse the decline and bless their communities. It all starts with church leaders faithfully asking, "Is our mission really alive?"

May your courage and honesty begin a new journey for your congregation.

Blessings,

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