

**Solid Rock Church**  
**Defining Disciples**  
**Lesson Notes**  
June 25, 2017

**Barna Study Video**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TcdPP4iIwQs>

30% of population qualifies as born again Based on the criteria: **If you would died, you believe you would go to heaven because you have confessed your sins and accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior**

**Do you believe that this is a proper criteria for “being saved” ?**

Is it possible to confess sin and not be born again?

Matthew 3:8 (NASB)

8 "Therefore bear fruit in keeping with repentance;

Acts 26:20 (NASB)

20 but kept declaring both to those of Damascus first, and also at Jerusalem and then throughout all the region of Judea, and even to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds appropriate to repentance.

Is it possible to call Jesus Lord and not be born again?

Luke 6:46 (NKJV)

46 "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do the things which I say?

Is it possible to believe and not be born again?

James 2:19-20 (NKJV)

19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe--and tremble!

20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?

**First Few Mentions of “Saved” in the NT....**

**Mark 10:22** (*Jesus had told the rich man to forsake all and follow*)

Mark 10:25-27 (KJV)

25 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

26 And they were astonished out of measure, saying among themselves, Who then can be saved?

27 And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible.

**Luke 7:50 (KJV)**

50 And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.

There was a demonstration/action that showed real faith

**Mark 16:16 (KJV)**

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Acts 2:38 (KJV)

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

*Notice that in all three of the cases above, there was action connected to salvation.*

**Studying the 30% who identified as “born again”**

-80% of the 30% say they have a biblical world view.

But really, only 30% of the 30% have a biblical worldview.

-41% of the 30% believe success is being obedient/committed to God. (Faith and works?)

-About 75% Believe the Bible is inerrant and totally true

-73% Believe having faith is more important than what faith you have

With 73% of the born again group believing people can be saved apart from Jesus Christ, it suggests only 27% of the born again group really are. That is only 8.1% of the general population. *(If 30% is an inflated number, 8.1% is inflated)*

**Is that too harsh? Well, with ...**

-77% of the 30% believing that all people are good, and ...

-51% of the 30% believing there is no Holy Spirit

-60% of the 30% believing salvation can be earned

-50% of the 30% not believing there is such a thing as absolute truth and it can be found in the bible

*... it suggest that far fewer than 30% of the population is actually born again.*

One thing is for sure... we certainly have no more than (probably less than) 8% of the population who have a firm foundation, and who are capable of having a positive impact on the culture.

## **Why We Are Not Impacting The Culture**

I received an email from a church management software company suggesting ways to “Pump energy into your church groups.” Then they gave 5 ways to “Pump some energy into your church groups”

1. Minute to win it.  
A DIY version of a game show (flipping marshmallows in the air and catching them in mouth. Fun but not spiritual.
2. Scavenger Hunt  
What does that have to do with Church?
3. Free Food  
Like no one has ever thought of that before!
4. Board Games  
There is nothing wrong with having fun, but by # 4 I was starting to feel sorry for the person who wrote this article. But I was still thinking of Christians just needing some spiritual vision. Then came #5...
5. Yoga Night  
Wow! Yoga is essentially Hinduism. We finally get to something spiritual but it is something other than Christianity! This is why we don't have churches that are impacting the culture.

## **Levels of Christian Maturity**

Something to consider from Rick Joyner

(Word for the Week, pt 4, 2015)

... If we are going to make it as His body through these times, we must grow up in all things into Christ. The present model many churches are built on makes them into big sheep pens where food is thrown to the sheep once or twice a week. This will not survive much longer. The churches that are going to survive, and even prosper, into the future will be those that not only impart the vision of how far any Christian can go in Christ, but also help them along the way. Next week, we will begin to examine the vision and practical steps in getting there.

(Word for the Week, pt 5, 2015)

...

- 1) Believer – born again by faith in Christ and the atonement of His cross. This is the first step in the greatest journey we can ever take, but it is just the first step.
- 2) Disciple – this is the beginning of spiritual maturity. A disciple lives to learn of their Master, to be like Him, and do the works that He did.
- 3) Servant – this is where the main focus changes from learning of Him to doing His

will and accomplishing His work.

4) Friend – this is a call to a special companionship with Him and greater authority (see John 15:14).

5) Sons of God – this is the high calling of God that Paul wrote about, that even the great apostle did not consider he had yet attained to (see Philippians 3).

Every one who is born again has been given the invitation and power to become sons of God. This is to walk in the highest place of relationship and authority with God on the earth. These levels are revealed in Scripture and become clearer as we begin to see and run the race for the high calling of God in Christ. We will elaborate on each of these so that the path can be more clearly seen, and so that we can more accurately evaluate where we are and what our next step is for maturing in Christ.

The path to the high calling of God in Christ is not a safe path; rather it is a faith path. There are dangers, stumbling blocks, and traps all along the way. Even so, it is far more dangerous not to be on this path. As the Lord Jesus warned, those who seek to save their lives will lose them, but those who are willing to lay down their lives for His sake will find them. We are now well into the times when the only safe place is in His will. We will not be in His will if He is not our first love and if doing His will is not a chief pursuit in this life. However, one does not walk this path to be safe, but out of the ultimate love that would compel us to walk the path of the ultimate life.

**My Promise** (by God's Grace)

Stick with us and you will get a good foundational teaching and be equipped to be a disciple if you choose to be one.

We are called to make disciples, not converts ...

Matthew 28:18-20 (NKJV)

18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

Simply put, being a disciple is turning from sin, knowing God, Listening to Him, and obeying what we hear. This is how we recognize true disciples.