

HOLY HELPS ARTICLE

HOW TO FAKE CHURCH**1. Emphasize "doing" rather than "being."**

Be busy all the time. Have something going every night and also during the daytime if you can get enough people involved. Whether aerobics, dietician classes, sewing, basketball, etc. get everybody involved in activities. Keep the family away from home as much as you can. Family time will build a family but what you want to build is a crowd so keep the family away from home as much as possible and on the temple's turf. (But be careful not to attempt to have a Prayer Meeting – you will be embarrassed.)

2. Put more emphasis on "show" than on "substance."

That is, be more interested in cosmetics than in character. Specialize in "Platform Christianity" by imitating the theatre, nightclub and show business venues. Make a big splash with lots of lights, glitter, glamour and pizzazz. Put on a good show for the pew people by having a good religious pep rally! Preacher, dress down. Look like "one of the street people."

3. Get a big crowd, never mind how; just get a crowd.

Focus on parading the "Personality Cult" genre. Feature popular singing groups. Never mind if the medium becomes the message; if the sound is the sermon; if the lyrics are man-centered and not God-centered and are not scriptural, because the majority of those who attend such religious shows are not into Bible anyway. They have yet to learn that a crowd is not necessarily a church; that a screen production is no substitute for the Spirit's unction.

4. Do not use Bible terminology which makes people uncomfortable.

The words "sinner", "sin", "judgment", "repent", and "hell", etc. might offend and they may not return to your "crowd." Tell them that we may occasionally make mistakes and that we all have our faults but that God understands, and after all, Jesus has already died to cover our deficiencies. Do not "declare" anything, only "suggest." Yes, I know that Paul said, "I declare to you the gospel," (I Cor. 15:1) but that was back in the dark ages; we are now more enlightened people.

5. Avoid doctrine. Preach "Feel Good" sermons only.

Keep people ignorant of the great doctrines of the faith which edify the believer and glorify God. Avoid that which historically has been the hallmark of solid, sound churches. Give them a lot of "How To's" but none of the "Don't Do's"! Massage the attendees the right way by turning the pulpit into a psychiatrist's couch, dishing out heaping helpings of humanistic philosophy.

6. And, whatever you do, do not let the people read the following!

"An astonishing and horrible thing has been committed in the land: The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests rule by their own power; and My people love to have it so. But what will you do in the end?" (Jer. 5:30-31)

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