



1



2

Affiliation

2001 Census - 72% claimed to be Christian
2011 Census - 59% claimed to be Christian

The decrease in the 'Christian community' since 2001 would have been 5.8 million people if it had not been offset by the growth in ethnic minority Christian affiliation.

2011 Census: Religion

Source: Table KS209EW 2011 Census Office for National Statistics © Crown Copyright 2012

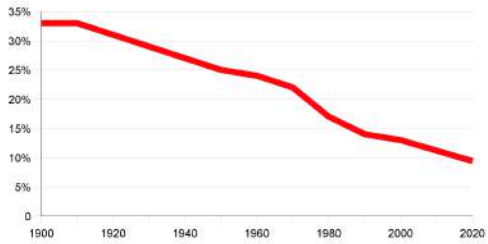
Table population: All usual residents

Redland

	Bristol	%	E&W	%
Total population	428,234	100.0	56,075,912	100.0
Christian	200,254	46.8	33,243,175	59.3
Buddhist	2,549	0.6	247,743	0.4
Hindu	2,712	0.6	816,633	1.5
Jewish	777	0.2	263,346	0.5
Muslim	22,016	5.1	2,706,066	4.8
Sikh	2,133	0.5	423,158	0.8
Other religion	2,793	0.7	240,530	0.4
No religion	160,218	37.4	14,097,229	25.1
Religion not stated	34,782	8.1	4,038,032	7.2

Attendance

Figure 2: Percentage of the Population who are Church Members 1900-2020



3

Adherence

The 'de-churched' form a group twice the size of those who attend church regularly and might comprise 33% of the population

Source: TEAR Fund

4



Believing

Whilst 77% of people believed that 'there are things in life that we simply cannot explain through science or other means' and that there is a 'spiritual current' running through society, 87% do not believe in a personal god and 70% do not believe in a god of any kind

Source: ComRes -

The spirit of things unseen: belief in post-Christian Britain

Inside-out



Discipleship

1. Beyond 'church'

5

- Average weekly attendance down by another 1% (per annum)
- All age usual Sunday attendance halved since 1968
- 29% of the 'worshipping community' are 70 or over
- 9% fall in electoral roll membership since its last revision in 2007
- Christmas and Easter attendance and communicants – both down.
- More churches declining - 24% (up from last year), than growing - 19% (down from last year).
- Only one diocese has increased its average weekly attendance. A few more have increased Sunday attendance. But the rest are in decline or, in a few cases, static.



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Statistics for Mission

Archbishops' Council Research and Statistics Church House
27 Great Smith Street London SW1P 3AZ 11.11.14

Inside-out



Discipleship

1. Beyond 'church'

6

"Methodists celebrated more than twice as many funerals as baptisms last year, as latest figures show a decline in membership of one third over the last decade.

The Methodist Church, which began collecting membership figures in 1766, said that every day, on average, over the last decade, 16 Methodists have died while just seven new people have joined the Church".

Methodist Church: Statistics for Mission

June 2014

The **Methodist Church**



Inside-out



Discipleship

1. Beyond 'church'

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Inside-out



Discipleship

1. Beyond 'church'

8



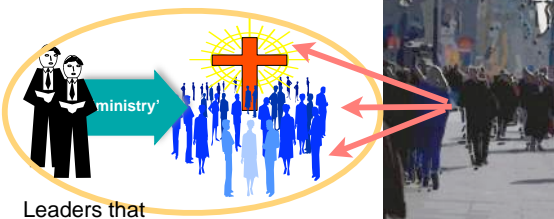
It means we need actually and practically to believe that Spirit-empowered lay people, **disciples**, are the engine room of the church,

Archbishops' Council Research and Statistics Church House

Dr Atkins said: "If ever we needed any encouragement to continue to focus on those things that make for an ever better Church, which is a **discipleship movement shaped for mission** today, then these statistics provide that."

Methodist Church: Statistics for Mission June 2014

Churches that attract



Leaders that form churches

From doing ministry to forming ministers



Increase our effort - but change nothing

Improve what we have

Import a programme

Willow-driven Cellsong approach

Improvise with new ways of being church

Core belief: If we get church right people will come

Churches that infect



Leaders that make disciples

From doing ministry to forming ministers

"We made a mistake... What we should have done when people crossed the line of faith and became Christians, we should have started telling people and teaching people that they have to take responsibility to become self feeders.

We should have gotten people (and) taught people how to read their Bible between services (and) how to do the spiritual practices much more aggressively on their own."

Bill Hybels (2007)

"Hybels indicated that the emphasis on programmes and meetings did not produce disciples."



13

Horizontal lines for writing



"The test of the ministry of any church is the quality of the disciples being made,"

Bishop Graham Cray – Fresh Expressions

14

Horizontal lines for writing



'I believe I know that inwardly I shall be really clear and honest only when I have begun to take seriously the Sermon on the Mount. Here is set the only source of power capable of exploding the whole enchantment and spectre [of Hitler and his rule] so that only a few burnt-out fragments are left remaining from the fireworks. The restoration of the church will surely come from a sort of new monasticism which has in common with the old only the uncompromising attitude of a life lived according to the Sermon on the Mount in the following of Christ. I believe it is now time to call people to this'.

15

Horizontal lines for writing

"Non-discipleship is the elephant in the church. It is not the much discussed moral failures, financial abuses, or the amazing general similarity between Christians and non-Christians.

These are only the effects of the underlying problem.

The fundamental negative reality among Christian believers now is their failure to be constantly learning how to live their lives in the Kingdom Among Us. And it is an accepted reality"

Dallas Willard, *The Divine Conspiracy* (San Francisco: Harper, 1998) p.301

16

Horizontal lines for writing



"If those in the churches really are enjoying fullness of life, evangelism will be unstoppable and largely automatic"

Dallas Willard - The Spirit of the Disciplines

17



18



transforming friendship

18 As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. 19 And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.'

19



a lifelong apprenticeship

Jesus said, "Peace be with you!
As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." John 20:21

20

a lifelong apprenticeship

Inside-out
Discipleship



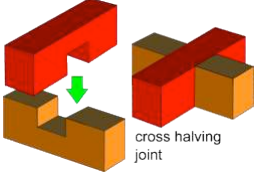
1. Beyond 'church'

apprentice not audience

21

a lifelong apprenticeship

Inside-out
Discipleship



cross halving joint

1. Beyond 'church'

apprentice not student

22

I am the light of the world
John 8:12

Inside-out
Discipleship



You are the light of the world
Matthew 5:14

1. Beyond 'church'

a world-changing partnership

23

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age

Inside-out
Discipleship



1. Beyond 'church'

a world-changing partnership

24

What is discipleship?

- a transforming friendship
- a lifelong apprenticeship
- a world-changing partnership





Dallas Willard

Yision - what does a disciple *look like*?
Intention - do I really *want* to be a disciple of Jesus?
Means - how do I grow as a disciple of Jesus?

