

Dissertation Proposal

Freddie Baisden

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Professor Iria Abram, PhD

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Written by Freddie Baisden Doctor of Ministry Student at Beulah Heights University

My thesis is why cars don't move on Sunday morning? Why is the church attendance down in the urban Atlanta area? Many people do not drive to church the way they use to. This problem need to be studied because if we do not make the Baptist church reverent to the community the Baptist church in Atlanta will die.

The reason why I think the study is needed now is because so many things have changed. Forty years ago there was no internet, cell phones, there was no search thing as streaming church services on the internet. People were not on Facebook. There was no blogs on the World Wide Web. All of this has changed the way we get information. This includes religions information

People of choosing to do Church in a different way today than they did yesterday. They have more options today than they did yesterday. The church building is not the only way people can do church now. So many things have changed. The writing is on the wall. We must learn how to do church different now. This does not just apply to the church. It applies to information. Newspapers, textbooks magazines, novels and all printed material can now be found on line. Book stores are going the way of the telephone booths. They are being torn down. I don't know where super man is going to change into his superman suit but it will not be in a telephone booth. The printing press is not now the only way to produce knowledge.

People have other ways to get all knowledge. All these things are going on right before our eyes.

Today it is knowing where to find knowledge and how to share knowledge including religion knowledge. The church in Atlanta has to face how much things have changed concerning how people do church now. Brick and mortar at church is not the only options for people to do church.

The reason I am doing this dissertation is because I want to add to the conversations about how we can reach people for Jesus Christ in this new information age and keep the church of Jesus Christ alive in Atlanta, Georgia and out into the world. I am not a long wolf. I just want to be a brick in the wall to keep the gates of hell from prevailing against the walls of the church. Jesus said to Peter “upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it” [1].

I think this study is needed because the church is still needed in our communities today just like it was yesterday. It may be needed more today than it was yesterday. Evil, and selfishness is all over the world. The church of Jesus of Jesus Christ has always fought against these things in God’s world.

The problem I want to solve for Jesus in His church is how do we get the attendance up in His church? What can we do to keep the church of Jesus Christ reverence for today's societies? This is the main problem I will be aiming to solve.

My generation is the baby boomer generation. In my generation Church attendance was high in the black community. The generation we are dealing with now is the millennial generation. The hip-hop generation and generation X. This tells me we are dealing with a different generation. The millennial generation is the group that we'll be focusing on in this dissertation. '

This generation will go out the back door as fast as they will come in the front door. They do church in a drop in drop out way. Religion is not a drop in drop out activity. Religion is like a garden it must be tended to. Faith in God is living with God every day. There is no substitute for regular attendance in the Church of God. How can we keep the millennial's from going out the back door? This is the problem. They do have a great many more options than we had. In our generation the church was the one place black people could come to and feel at home. We really felt like sisters and brothers, mothers and fathers, aunts and uncles.

I must admit we do many of the same today that we did yesterday but we kept the church buildings up we kept the institution alive. What can we do to bring people to God's house on a regular bases? Do the baby boomers need to change are do the millennia need to change? The baby boomers must face this question head on. We cannot force the millennia to value that which we

valued in the way we value it. Their work is different from the world we grew up in.

We valued rock and roll music. The millennium value hip hop music. The generation before could not deal with our just like it's hard for us to deal with hip hop music. They reach us. Now it's time for us to reach the millennium with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The purpose of this study is to get the millennial to gather around the household of Jesus Christ and to take care of His house. We hope to add to the Conversation about how we can reach the millennial's with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We hope to achieve the goals of getting cars to move again on Sunday morning. One of our main aim is to get church attendance again in the Metropolitan Atlanta area and throughout the state of Georgia. We will be doing surveys in this area and also interviews with church leaders in this area. We hope and pray this study will be a brick in one of the pillars that is holding up the church of Jesus Christ.

Every house has to have pillars to stand on. Without pillars the house will fall down. Jesus put His house and His work in our hands before He was killed. It is up to us to find a way to keep His work alive on this earth. Our parent reach out to us and we must find a way to reach out to the next generation.

## Research Questions

1. Why has the church of Jesus Christ declined in the black Baptist church in metro Atlanta?
2. What change in thought patterns has brought about this decline in church attendance in Metropolitan Atlanta in the Baptist churches?
3. How can we get the millennial's into the Baptist Church in metropolitan Atlanta Georgia?
4. How can we keep the millennial's from leaving the church?

Footnotes:

The New Living Translation Version of the Bible