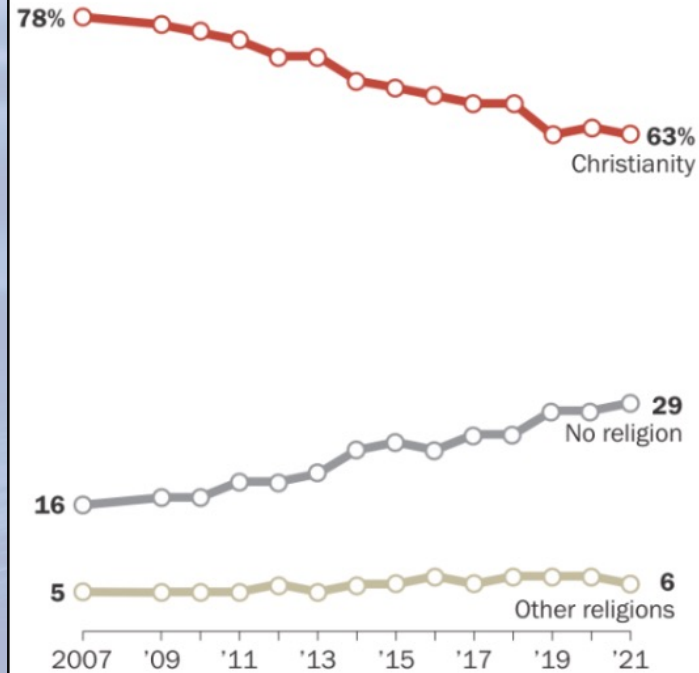


A person is seen from behind, pulling a large fishing net from the water. The net is draped over the side of the boat and extends into the water. The background shows the calm surface of the water under a clear sky. The overall scene is in a light blue color palette.

First Steps to Becoming an Andrew

In U.S., roughly three-in-ten adults now religiously unaffiliated

% of U.S. adults who identify with ...



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown.

Source: Data from 2020-21 based on Pew Research Center's National Public Opinion Reference Surveys (NPORS), conducted online and by mail among a nationally representative group of respondents recruited using address-based sampling. All data from 2019 and earlier from the Center's random-digit-dial telephone surveys, including the 2007 and 2014 Religious Landscape Studies. See Methodology for details.

"About Three-in-Ten U.S. Adults Are Now Religiously Unaffiliated"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

"What we have seen in our ministry is that even as our cultural landscape becomes increasingly secular, secularism does not have the power to erase our human longings for meaning and worth. If anything, it increases them. God has placed a longing for identity, meaning, and purpose in all human hearts; so, even if people can't quite articulate what they feel they are missing, the longing and wistfulness are there. But they will not know where to look unless Christians both live and tell the good news of what God has done for all in Christ."

- Rebecca Pippert, *Stay Salt*, 16.

You Must Have a Right Motivation

1. Love for Christ

2 Cor. 5:13-15 “For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.”

You Must Have a Right Motivation

2. Love for the Lost

Lk. 19:41-44 “And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, “Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up a barricade around you and surround you and hem you in on every side and tear you down to the ground, you and your children within you. And they will not leave one stone upon another in you, because you did not know the time of your visitation.””

You Must Have a Right Motivation

2. Love for the Lost

Rom. 9:1-3 “I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh.”

You Must Have a Right Confidence

“The truth is, it is not self-confidence we need. What we need, more than anything else, is God-confidence. Having confidence in the true God is what enables us to see that our weakness does not limit the powerful living God. He is delighted to use us, as we take small steps of obedience.”

- Rebecca Pippert, *Stay Salt*, 37.

You Must Have a Right Confidence

Promises in Scripture:

Rom. 1:16 “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”

Matt. 16:18 “And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

You Must Have a Right Confidence

Implications:

1. Since Christ will build His church, we cannot fail.
2. Since Christ will build His church, He will equip us.

Eph. 6:19-20 “and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.”

You Must Have a Right Approach

Ways Christians approach non-believers:

1. Isolate – “us away from them”
2. Accommodate – “us as them”
3. Confrontational – “us against them”
4. Incarnational – “us with them but not as them”

You Must Have a Right Approach

Phil. 2:5-8 “Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”

You Must Have a Right Approach

Matt. 9:10-13 “And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.””

You Must Have a Right Approach

1 Cor. 9:19-23 “For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.”

You Must Have a Right Approach

I. Our Turf, Our Agenda

Examples: Worship service, Sunday school, MidWeek, Concerts, Conferences, etc.

II. Our Turf, Their Agenda

Examples: Church Picnic, Social events on site, Hosting outside groups, etc.

III. Their Turf, Our Agenda

Examples: Investigative Bible Study offsite, attending a Christian movie, etc.

IV. Their Turf, Their Agenda

Examples: Gyms, schools, homes, ball parks, plays, neighborhood, etc.