

Evangelization of the Baptized

Pastor Kent Groethe

“The world and the masses are and always will be un-Christian, even if they are all baptized in name.” Martin Luther

A person can fall away from faith and relationship with God.

“He who stands firm to the end will be saved.” Mathew 24:13

“We have come to share in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first.” Hebrews 3:14

“Some have rejected and shipwrecked their faith.” 1 Tim 1:18-20

“Faith does not remain in those who lose the Holy Spirit and reject repentance... Faith exists in repentance.” Book of Concord.”

“[Rejected is the teaching] that faith is a kind of trust...that can exist and remain in a person who does not truly repent, demonstrates no love resulting from this faith, and perseveres in sin against the conscience.” Formula of Concord.

“We must thoroughly explain how righteousness and salvation are preserved in us, so that we do not lose them again... We must begin by diligently condemning and rejecting this false...delusion that some dream up, that faith, righteousness, and salvation and cannot be lost.” Formula of Concord

How Do We Evangelize Those Who are in Church?

1. Communion:
Emphasize that this gift is only for the repentant. Use Communion as an altar call.
2. Preach need for ongoing repentance and the possibility of losing one's faith.
3. Have an evangelist preach a saving message to the church or have altar calls.
4. Death-bed sensitivities. Seek a profession of faith.
5. Teach confirmation students about the need for on-going repentance and faith in Jesus Christ.
6. Be careful about words.
7. Pray in church for church members/attenders to come to faith.