

Vision for 2010

***Top 5 New Years Resolutions you CAN keep!

***1. Gain weight. At least 30 pounds.

***2. Stop exercising. Waste of time.

***3. Read less. Makes you think.

***4. Watch more TV. I've been missing some good stuff.

***5. Procrastinate more. Starting tomorrow.

Real World has a resolution, as well.

In early November of last year, the leadership body of Real World got away on a leadership retreat. One of the products of that 2 days together was a new vision statement. Each of the leaders was asked by me ahead of time to submit a word or phrase that they felt best described Real World and what we are about and we spent the better part of that time together narrowing those statements into one concise and easy-to-understand sentence about what we feel God wants us to do.

Why a vision statement? Why can't we just "do church" and be done with it?

The problem that you quickly run into with that thinking is first that the church can't be everything to everyone, and second that everyone's definition of "doing church" is different. Just those 2 issues create an environment to become stretched too thin and stop being affective in anything.

***According to one definition:

A vision statement outlines what an company wants to be. It focuses on tomorrow; it is inspirational; it provides clear decision-making criteria; and it is timeless.

***To promote the reality found in a relationship with Jesus Christ to a world searching for that which they have not found in the shallow rules and empty promises of religion, human traditions, and worldly principles.

Vision for 2010

***Making God Real, Relevant, and Relational

Simple, directional, understandable, memorable, useful!

One part of the process of crafting this new vision statement is defining who we are.

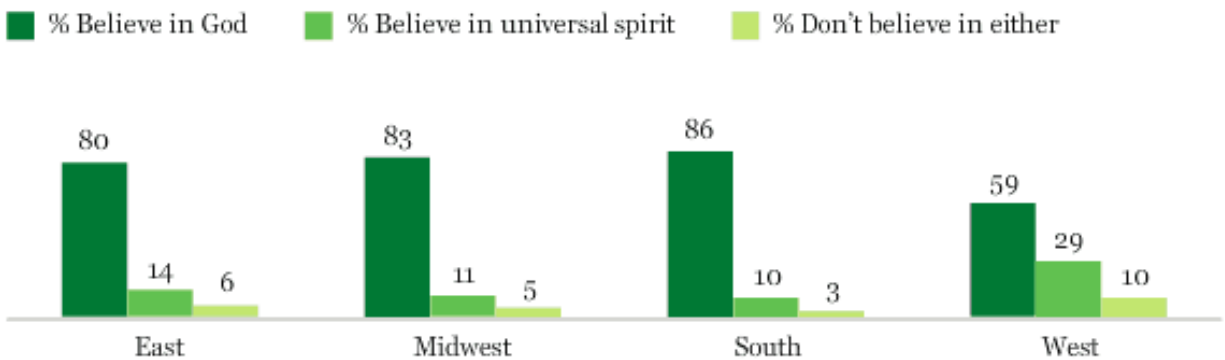
***Who we are...

***Real People, Real God, Real Life

Over the rest of today and next week we are going to begin to unpack these 3 principles and answer the question how do we do it for each of these 3 characteristics.

Which of the following statements comes closest to your belief about God -- you believe in God, you don't believe in God, but you do believe in a universal spirit or higher power, or you don't believe in either?

By region of the country



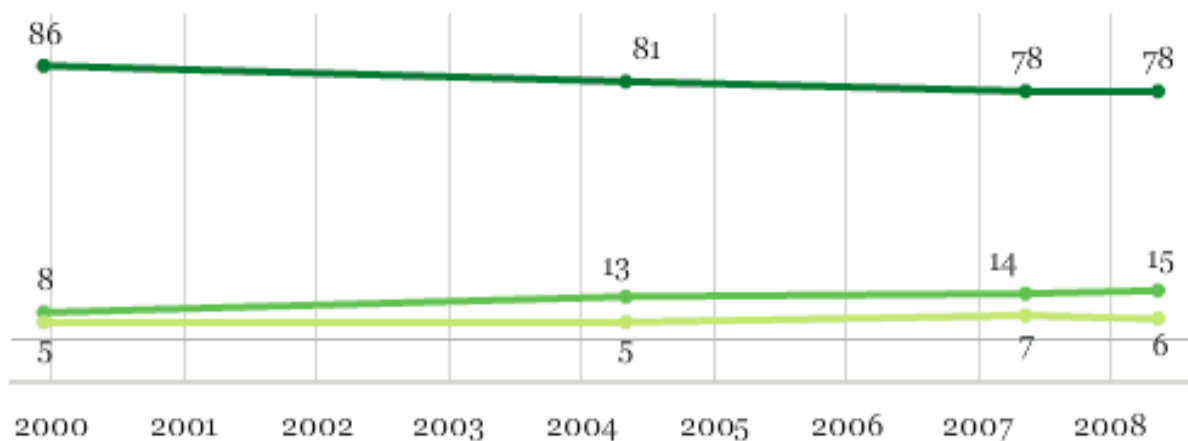
Gallup Poll Social Series: Values and Beliefs, May 8-11, 2008

GALLUP POLL

Vision for 2010

Which of the following statements comes closest to your belief about God -- you believe in God, you don't believe in God, but you do believe in a universal spirit or higher power, or you don't believe in either?

■ % Believe in God ■ % Believe in universal spirit ■ % Don't believe in either



Gallup Poll Social Series: Values and Beliefs, May 8-11, 2008

GALLUP POLL:

***How do we make God Real?

***1. He has to become real in our life

Unless He is real to us, how can we expect to make God real to this generation of people?

Through prayer

Through worship

Through devotion

***2. As He becomes more real to us, they will see it.