#### **Barna Research on American Adults:**

- 92% believe Jesus was a real person
- 56% believe Jesus was God
- •52% believe Jesus committed sins like everyone else
- •63% say they have made meaningful personal commitments to Jesus

#### **Barna Research on American Adults:**

- Those who have not made personal commitments to Jesus believe their good deeds will get them into Heaven.
- 29% of church-going Americans believe it is the church's responsibility to evangelize, not their responsibility.
- 51% of church-Americans have never heard of the Great Commission.

"If current trajectories continue, American churches will pass a tipping point. Our congregations will begin a likely unstoppable path toward decline that will rival many European churches of the past century. If there is not a significant movement of revitalization, there will be an accelerated rate of decline and death."

Thom Rainer, former CEO of LifeWay Resources

# What Does the Birth of Jesus Mean to Our Country?

John 3:16-21

1. American Christians and unbelievers should remember that the light of Jesus Christ exposes the darkness within each person's heart and life while also making possible a new, transformed life. 3:19-21

## When the light of Jesus shines forth, some will love the darkness more than the light.

Others will allow their lives to be exposed to the light of Christ, revealing God's power to transform a life according to God's truth.

# Am I ready to allow God's light to expose and transform my life?

2. American Christians and unbelievers need to remember that God sent Jesus into the world not to condemn sinners but to save people from their sin. 3:17-18

Those who exercise their free will and reject Jesus Christ experience the continued state of their condemnation now and forever. 3:18

I do not need to condemn sinners and unbelievers. They are condemned already. Instead, I urge them to trust Christ for salvation.

"All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation." 2 Corinthians 5:18-19

### Am I ready to be in a right relationship with God through Christ and invite others to do the same?

3. American Christians and unbelievers need to remember how Jesus Christ reveals the love of God for sinners. 3:16

The selfless, reckless love of God gives what is most precious to Him, Jesus the Son, to make right a broken relationship with the rebellious, hostile, sinful people of the world.

### "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

## lam invited to believe and trust in God's love revealed to me in Jesus.

Have you been seized by the power of a great affection? Are you revealing the love of Christ to those who need to be saved?