



Dr. Chuck Missler describes how denominational churches are driving the true body of Christ underground in his must-read book, *“Prophecy 20/20: Profiling the Future Through the Lens of the Scripture”*, he describes how real believers today have already started their exodus from institutional Christianity and are reemerging in home groups, just as the church began in the book of Acts.

He writes: “There is presently a groundswell across America---as in many other parts of the world---in which people are meeting in small groups in homes during the week, rediscovering the Bible, and enjoying a more intimate fellowship than they find in “Sunday church.” Many of these are encouraged and supported by their formal church associations; others simply meet independently. This is especially true of many young people, to whom “Sunday church” is a spectator sport, and who seek a more personal participation and accountability.

After all, this is the way it all began: twelve guys along the seashore with their Teacher. *All* the remarkable episodes of the early church in the book of Acts *occurred in homes*. It wasn’t until the 4<sup>th</sup> century that edifices began to be erected, when Christians exchanged the rags of the caves for the silks of the court. And committed ambassadors were replaced with hirelings, inserted between an attendee and the Word itself.

In more than sixty years as a practicing Christian, the place that I’ve always seen people really grow spiritually is within small group Bible studies: where they can ask questions and hold each other accountable.”

Dr. Missler remarks that small home groups feel

the need to network and not become insular, as well as the need to “systematically spawn new leadership, and not become an end in themselves.”

The birth of the church at Pentecost was in a house.

**“And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.” Acts 2:2**

Dr. Missler says, “In my own sixty-five years, it is in small groups where I have seen people really grow (not from forty-five minute messages on Sunday mornings).”



“Home groups remain the most viable form for underground churches today. As a persecuted church in many regions and countries, this is the only safe way to meet”, Dr Missler says.

There was no bureaucratic clergy in the New Testament... no clerical mediators.

**“For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,” 1 Timothy 2:5**

Dr. Missler writes that Home churches have many advantages:

1. They undergo disciplined multiplication.
2. They are free of growth barriers.
3. They include more involved participants.
4. Participants can ask questions without embarrassment.
5. We see more personal transformation.
6. More accountability.
7. Proven more effective for new Christians.
8. Home groups solve the leadership crisis.
9. They are more Biblical.
10. Miracles, signs and wonders are highly prevalent when the Holy Spirit is allowed to operate.
11. They enjoy a more persecution-proof structure.
12. They are more efficient, involving lower costs.
13. Clearer, specific focus on the Gospel.
14. They are self supportive, rather than merchandising products and selling services, which angered Jesus to the point of whipping people ([John 2: 13-16](#)).
15. They mature under tears, multiply under pressure, flourish in the desert, see in the dark, thrive on chaos. They only boast the Lamb.

Straightjackets of religion, denominational and organizational man-made structures, hinder or limit the Holy Spirit. Many “Sunday churches” today are adaptations of the pagan religions like the Nicolaitanes, that the Lord Himself expressly denounced twice ([Revelation 2: 6, 15](#)). (Nicolaitanes were followers of Nicolaus, a heretic. They were a sect of Gnostics who practised and taught impure and immoral doctrines, such as the community of wives; that committed adultery and that fornication was not sinful. This sect was similar to the doctrines of Balaam and Jezebel of Thyatira.) We see “Sunday churches” today welcoming Islamic leaders in to preach; accepting homosexuality (including leaders); accepting adultery and fornication within the congregation and allowing other practises that God calls sin and will send people to the lake of fire. Much of this activity is the fruit of religious spirits masquerading as Christianity and Christian doctrine. This activity is turning false Christians against true Christians, thinking they’re doing the will of God, calling it “love” or “unity” or “acceptance”. While everyone is talking about unity, the prophets of the kingdom of God have been seeing separation. The remnant will separate itself from those following religious spirits instead of the Spirit of the Living God.” They are starting or moving into home groups to meet with God.

Dr. Michael Lake writes in Thomas Horn’s fantastic book, “*Blood on the Altar*”, “The basic tenets of the church are being rewritten to placate fleshly desires. Those with the gift of discernment are sounding the alarm concerning the demonic infiltration of the churches. The moving of the Holy Spirit is being replaced with religious activities and facades, and the doctrines of religious spirits are being promulgated in church services and over Christian airwaves. Religious spirits can manifest as Christian, Muslim, Buddhist, satanist, luciferian and even atheist. These religious spirits have gained a stronghold in the churches and have permeated the very foundations of our belief system. Get deeply involved in the Scriptures and conduct your own research. For the praying man or woman, the facades of these religious spirits are easily pierced and the deceptions quickly exposed. A spiritual person can quickly see through the fruitless environments that religious spirits create!”

Many false Christians condemn home groups as gatherings of “rebellious or prideful sheep” that refuse to go under the covering of a “chosen leader” or that reject “sanctioned” fellowship, yet research shows us that home groups are biblical and proven to be highly successful. Whereas, institutional “churches” are man-made structures developed in the 4<sup>th</sup> century that are mostly spiritual failures according to God’s standards.

Consider a home group as your path to a deeper relationship with God; greater fellowship among the saints; and more success in fulfilling your destiny with the perfect will of God.

Home groups can be found in [Acts 2:46, 5:42, 8:3, 9:11, 12:12, 16:40, 18:7, 20:20, 21:8](#); [Romans 16:5](#); [1 Corinthians 16:19](#); [Colossians 4:15](#); [1 Timothy 5:13-14](#); and [Philemon 1:2](#).

Good Hunting!