

The Church's Controlling Stories

LIVING IN CHRISTENDOM	LIVING WITH THE RECOGNITION THAT SOCIETY HAS REJECTED CHRISTENDOM
'Church' = the hierarchy, the embodiment of Christ's lordship	'Church' = the People of God, the body of Christ, the temple of the Holy Spirit.
Baptism initiates into a Christian society	Baptism initiates into a sacramental, eschatological community
Baptism is a civic duty	Baptism is the business of the People of God
Infant baptism requires no preparation	Every baptism requires communal formation
Catechesis is preparation for adulthood	Catechesis is a process of converting or transforming or shaping those who will share the mission of Christ
Salvation is getting to heaven when you die	Salvation is the healing and transformation of the world
Original sin is inherited guilt	Original sin is culturally formed alienation from the ways of God
Evangelizing consists in baptizing communities and providing education through Church institutions	Evangelizing consists in Christian people introducing others to the way of Jesus through loving service
Making disciples consists in developing a Christian culture that supports the Church's teaching and discipline	Making disciples consists in mentoring people in the way of Jesus and baptizing them into the life and vocation of the Church
Sacraments are 'means of grace'	Through sacraments we share in the mystery of Christ crucified and risen
Faith is coopted by the powers-that-be	Faith offers courage and hope to the victims of the powers-that-be
A good life is conformity to the teaching and discipline of the 'Church'	A good life is shaped by the paschal mystery through the power of the Spirit
The vocation of the 'Church' is to undergird and maintain a stable Christian society	The vocation off the Church is to model and inspire the hope of a new creation, through witness and service.

THIS IS SIDE ONE

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LIVING IN CHRISTENDOM	ADAPTING CHRISTENDOM FOR A CONSUMER SOCIETY	LIVING WITH THE RECOGNITION THAT SOCIETY HAS REJECTED CHRISTENDOM
'Church' = the hierarchy, the embodiment of Christ's lordship	'Church' = the hierarchy (with the support of the laity)	'Church' = the People of God, the body of Christ, the temple of the Holy Spirit.
Baptism initiates into a Christian society	Requiring baptism is inhospitable	Baptism initiates into a sacramental, eschatological community
Baptism is a civic duty	Baptism is an individual's choice	Baptism is the business of the People of God
Infant baptism requires no preparation	Infant baptism (still) requires no preparation	Every baptism requires communal formation
Catechesis is preparation for adulthood	Catechesis is a way to engage youth	Catechesis is a process of converting or transforming or shaping those who will share the mission of Christ
Salvation is getting to heaven when you die	Salvation is personal fulfilment (and getting to heaven when you die)	Salvation is the healing and transformation of the world
Original sin is inherited guilt	Original sin is <i>passé</i>	Original sin is culturally formed alienation from the ways of God
Evangelizing consists in baptizing communities and providing education through Church institutions	Evangelizing consists in inviting people 'back to church'	Evangelizing consists in Christian people introducing others to the way of Jesus through loving service
Making disciples consists in developing a Christian culture that supports the Church's teaching and discipline	Making disciples consists in recruiting people into the ministries of the Church	Making disciples consists in mentoring people in the way of Jesus and baptizing them into the life and vocation of the Church
Sacraments are 'means of grace'	Sacraments offer an experience of grace	Through sacraments we share in the mystery of Christ crucified and risen
Faith is coopted by the powers-that-be	Faith is a private affair, protected by the powers-that-be	Faith offers courage and hope to the victims of the powers-that-be
A good life is conformity to the teaching and discipline of the 'Church'	A good life includes spiritual fulfilment	A good life is shaped by the paschal mystery through the power of the Spirit
The vocation of the 'Church' is to undergird and maintain a stable Christian society	The vocation of the Church is to survive	The vocation of the Church is to model and inspire the hope of a new creation, through witness and service.