

# The Move to Folk Spirituality

Interestingly, the established church system sees what we are doing outside of their domain as rustic. We appear to be no better than the peasants who attended Roman Catholic church meetings on Sundays, totally ignorant of the theology and religious pageantry displayed through the Latin liturgy.

Theologians see our move out of the church system as an ignorant and retrograde step.

*“The proportion of Protestants in the United States who don’t identify with a specific denomination doubled between 2000 and 2016, according to a Gallup poll released this week. Now, about 1 in 6 Americans are nondenominational Christians...Prior to 2000, half of all Americans belonged to a specific Protestant denomination. Now, just 30 percent do, Gallup reported.”*<sup>1</sup>

*“There is a trend toward what I call ‘generic Christianity’ that is very feeling-centered and pragmatic and somewhat anti-intellectual,” the theologian told CT. “As denominational particularities are ignored or hidden, what’s often left is a ‘lowest common denominator’ spirituality that is often little more than ‘worship’ and ‘discipleship’ devoid of cognitive content. **The result is often folk religion rather than historic, classic, biblical Christianity.**”*<sup>2</sup>

Actually, this “folk religion” is more closely aligned with biblical Christianity than the “classic” Christianity when both are compared to the first church in the NT. Although, it's possible that what the writer means by “biblical Christianity” is religion focussed on the Bible, or Bible study and it's theology, rather than the vibrant, abundant Kingdom living of sonship and intimate relation with Father.

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1 – “The Rise of the Nons: Protestants Keep Ditching Denominations”  
([www.christianitytoday.com/news/2017/july/rise-of-nons-protestants-denominations-nondenominational.html](http://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2017/july/rise-of-nons-protestants-denominations-nondenominational.html))

2 – “The Rise of the Nons: Protestants Keep Ditching Denominations”  
([www.christianitytoday.com/news/2017/july/rise-of-nons-protestants-denominations-nondenominational.html](http://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2017/july/rise-of-nons-protestants-denominations-nondenominational.html))