Dangerous Evangelism
The New Church: How Solid is Solid Rock?

I. The thinking of the new church

a. The mission redefined

(Joh 17:14-18 NAU) 14 "I have given them Your word; and a the world has hated them, because b they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 15 "I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them 1 from 2 a the evil one. 16 a They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 17 a Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. 18 "As a You sent Me into the world, b I also have sent them into the world.

Hipster Christianity also expresses itself theologically, through preaching that often emphasizes covenantal and "new creation" ideas and attempts to construct a more ecclesiological or community-centric view of salvation. Things like soul-winning and going to heaven are downplayed in favor of the notion that heaven will come down to earth and renew the broken creation. Thus, the world matters. It's not a piece of rotting kindling that we will abandon for heaven one day. It's the site of a renewed kingdom. All of this informs hipster Christianity's attention to things like social justice, environmentalism, and the arts, because if God is building his kingdom on earth, then it all matters.

Brett McCracken in Hipster Faith

b. The identity redefined

(2Co 6:14-18 NAU) 14 a Do not be bound together with b unbelievers; for what c partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? 15 Or what a harmony has Christ with b Belial, or 2 what has a b believer in common with an c unbeliever? 16 Or a what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are a the temple of c the living God; just as God said, "d I WILL e DWELL IN THEM AND f WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE. 17 a Therefore, b COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE," says the Lord. "AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN; And I will welcome you. 18 a And I will be a father to you, And you shall be b sons and daughters to Me," Says the Lord Almighty.

"In missional evangelism people must join the church before they believe in Jesus. The non-christian's conversion to Jesus follows his conversion to the church."

Mark Driscoll

Eugene Shkarovskiy  www.slovo.org
II. The presentation of the new church

a. A mixed target audience
   Acts 2-5 (the first church)

b. Trendiness and innovation

c. Irresponsible baptism

d. Allowing the unbelievers to serve

I Cor. 12:1-7 (open) What Spirit does the unbeliever have? What serving can he do?

(Rom 8:5-9 NAU) 5 For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on ᵃ the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, ᵇ the things of the Spirit.

₆ ᵃ For the mind set on the flesh is ᵇ death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace,

₇ because the mind set on the flesh is ᵃ hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so,

₈ and those who are ᵃ in the flesh cannot please God.

₉ However, you are not ᵃ in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God ᵇ dwells in you. But ᶜ if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.

e. Loose membership

f. “Freedom in Christ”

III. The effect of the new church

a. Confused Christians (self-identity)

b. Confused unbelievers

c. Pending disappointment
IV. The immunity against the new church

a. Measure success by Scripture

b. Identity yourself only by being a Christian

c. Separate from unbelievers in any spiritual enterprise

d. Ensure that the atmosphere in the church is defined by the believers