

The background is a dark blue gradient with a subtle starfield. On the left side, there are several overlapping circular elements. A prominent one is a large arc with a scale from 140 to 260 in increments of 10. Other circles include solid and dashed lines, some with arrows indicating direction. The overall aesthetic is technical and futuristic.

GALATIANS

CHAPTER 1



Galatia was the land of the Gauls – Celtic tribal warriors



Paul's first journey

Acts

The Apostles share the gospel message with the Jews

Acts 7: Stephen stoned by the Jewish Leaders

Acts 8: Message taken to the Samaritans

Acts 9: Saul encounters God on the Road to Damascus / name changed to Paul

Acts 10-11: Message taken to the Gentiles

Acts 15: Council at Jerusalem

The believers led by the Spirit concluded:

- Gentiles are not to be unnecessarily burdened by the Mosaic regulations and law; they need only abstain from immorality and idolatry - Effectively, they said, being Christian does not hinge on first becoming Jewish.
- The law cannot save, only by grace and faith in Jesus can a person be saved.
- Paul was God's apostle to the Gentiles, with a special ministry to the church

Judaizers wanted the believers to follow the Jewish laws and customs of religious holidays, special dietary requirements, circumcision etc... and they were saying that unless they did this they weren't saved .

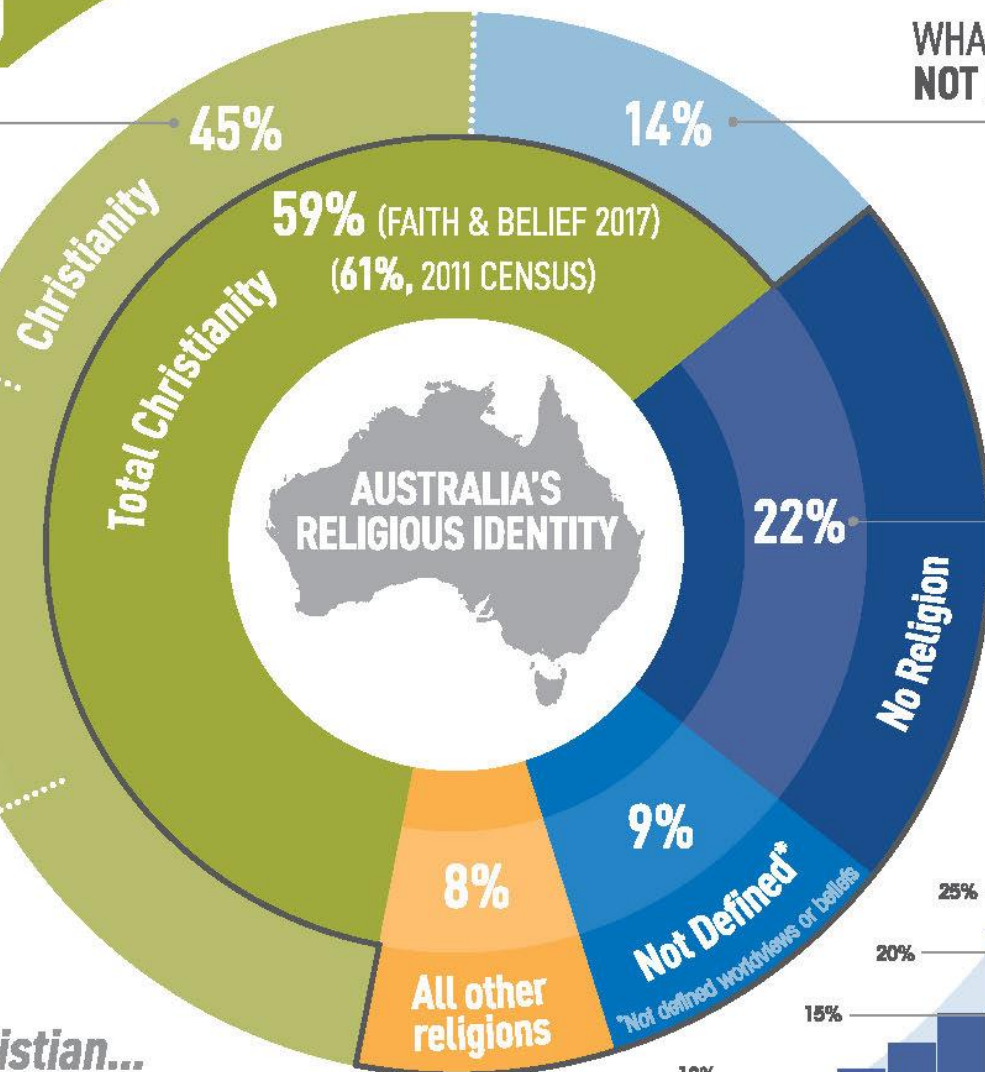
This was not the good news: the gospel of grace and mercy, a gospel of faith in Jesus.

FAITH AND BELIEF IN AUSTRALIA DEFINED

CHRISTIANITY LESS SPIRITUALITY

Church-goer
At least monthly

Active practisers
Extremely involved



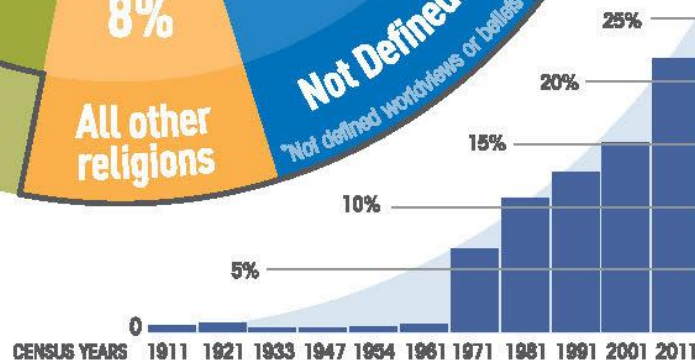
WHAT DO THE SPIRITUAL BUT NOT RELIGIOUS* BELIEVE? (TOP 3)

- 1 'There is an ultimate purpose and meaning' **36%**
- 2 Inward journey of self-discovery **26%**
- 3 Mixture of religious beliefs **22%**

WHY NO RELIGION? (TOP 3)

- 1 Prefer science and evidence based **49%**
- 2 'Religion is a crutch for the weak' **18%**
- 3 'Religion is outdated and traditional' **14%**

“I was brought up Christian... I just don't identify with a religion anymore.”



AUSTRALIANS IDENTIFYING WITH NO RELIGION IS GROWING

From 0.4% in 1911 to 22% in 2011

*When given a 'spiritual but not religious' option, 14% of 'Total Christianity' moves to this new category.

THE JOURNEY TO (AND FROM) BELIEF



55% of Australians talk about spirituality or religion at least occasionally



AUSTRALIAN ATTITUDES TOWARDS CHRISTIANITY

1 in 4 warm (24%)

1 in 8 neutral (12%)

1 in 4 cool (26%)



“Religion gives hope but causes friction.”

Modified Engel Scale

GREATEST INFLUENCES ON OPINIONS OF CHRISTIANS AND CHRISTIANITY



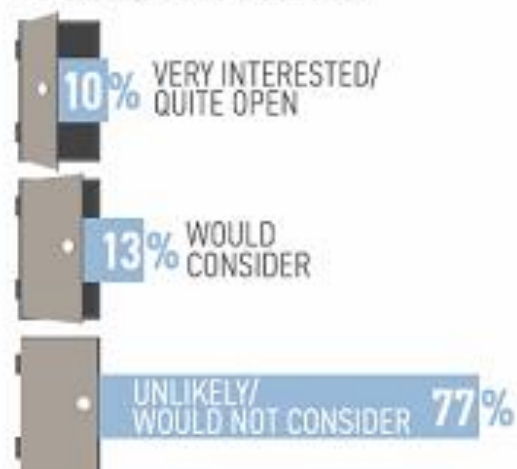
Internet and social is #3 for Gen Z (24% compared to 14% overall)

OUTGROWING RELIGION?

Analysis of all 'religious' and 'spiritual but not religious'



NON-CHRISTIANS' OPENNESS TO EXPLORING RELIGION



THE CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



“I don't have that religious support system. There must be a lot of comfort in that. I envy that.”

HOW MUCH DO AUSTRALIANS KNOW ABOUT THE CHURCH GENERALLY?



HOW WELL DO AUSTRALIANS KNOW THE CHURCH LOCALLY?



PERCEIVED IMPACT OF CHURCHES IN THEIR AREA



“When all else fails the church will be there.”

Quotes provided in this infographic are from focus groups conducted with non-Christians.

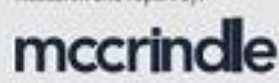
METHODOLOGY:

A national survey of Australians n=1024. Research conducted January 2017. Australian public data is sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. McCrindle conducted three focus groups (Baby Boomers, Generation X and Generation Y) during March 2017. Full report at faithandbelief.org.au

Commissioned by:



Research and report by:



PERCEPTIONS OF JESUS



“There is nothing negative about him, he was a very moral person. So many good traits there, if he does exist.”

1 in 29 Australians have never heard of Jesus

HOW MUCH DO AUSTRALIANS KNOW ABOUT JESUS' LIFE?



HOW IMPORTANT WAS/IS JESUS' LIFE TO...



THE POSITIVE ATTRIBUTES OF JESUS' LIFE



PERCEPTIONS OF RELIGION AND CHRISTIANITY



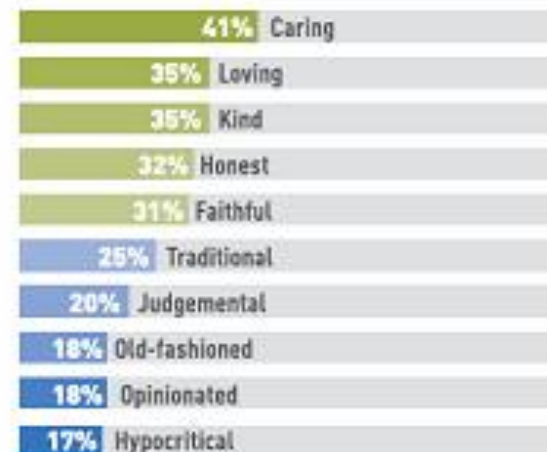
Almost 1.5 million Australian adults do not know any Christians (8%)



Almost 1 in 10 Gen Y do not know any Christians

TOP 10 PERCEPTIONS OF CHRISTIANS

92% of Australians know at least one Christian. They see Christians as:



BELIEF BLOCKERS

