

The Second Halfers

'Sharing an urgent story for the New-Old'

This new electronic publication is devoted to the Boomers and Builders in the second half of life who wish to intentionally evangelize among (to, with, and by) older adults; serve and honor God intergenerational; develop a Christ-centered retirement life style; or recruit and develop passionate adult leaders.

A fresh energizing approach to adult ministry is the concept of **encore** or **encore generation**. Encore means continuing to grow, connect, and contribute well. In checking, other positive meanings include:

- “Giving-back something that has been given to you (an encore expression of gift giving: you received help from the Lord, your family, society; in response you want to give back)
- A second shot at life; half-time and beyond
- Continuing ones greatly appreciated performance in response to a standing ovation.”

Encore: A Fresh Approach by Michael Kinsman

Age or aging has absolutely nothing to do with Encore. According to Chris Holck in the **EFCA Encore Final Report**, “The common denominator to qualify is “**more discretionary time**”. Other signals of “**middlescence**” include a sense of creeping (maybe charging) obsolescence in career, a nest that is empty, grand parenting, a lack of stamina, more thoughts about retirement, and finishing well. Just the fact that one begins thinking about the finish line (or death to be blunter) indicates some crossing over a mid-point in life. Thus passage does not have an age entry but rather a “more discretionary time” entry-level criteria.”

Encore Generation works better than current terminology by avoiding the sensitive issue of age or growing older. Encore is more a lifestyle and less a program. You don't start participating when you turn 50 or even 62; you start when you have more discretionary time.

If you have discretionary time or any of the other signals of “middlescence”, we hope you will personally volunteer for your Sweet Spot.

Regular Attendee Transformation

After researching how to serve evangelism ministries, our targeted evangelistic focus is on regular attendees. We plan to identify both those who are non-believers and have not been baptized as well as those who are Christians that have not placed their membership. The objective for reaching the former is to share the saving grace of Jesus Christ and the objective for the latter is selfishly connect them with all the rights of membership, as not to lose their leadership corporately. We further plan to equip and mobilize member to come along side the identified individuals to help transform them into both baptized believers and members.

In the coming weeks the following evangelistic tools will be introduced:

- Benefits in Being an Active Christian
- Important Evangelism Points
- Reasons given for Not being a Christian