

QUESTIONNAIRE No. 1

Thank you for participating in this confidential questionnaire.
Developed by Barb Orłowski, 2007.

Age:

Gender:

Date:

City:

Province/State:

Country:

Instructions: Use this form by typing your answer under each question.

Please leave blank line breaks between questions and answers.

Return your answers to my email address: churchexitersq@telus.net

1. Have you left a church because you have experienced emotional and spiritual distress under authoritarian and controlling church leaders and now have ceased to be associated with that congregation?

2. How long did you attend that church from start to finish?

3. How long ago did you leave and in which year?

4. What church ministry areas were you involved in?

5. Please identify (with an X) the church Sunday attendance size and the physical location:

60-150 151-300 301-600 601-1000 1000-2000 + 2000

Urban Suburban Town Village Rural

6. What major factor(s) led to your decision to leave the group?

7. How did you cope after making the decision to leave?

8. Describe some of the positive and negative feelings which you experienced.

9. How did you process the various positive and negative feelings after you left?

10. After a negative church experience did you ever consider any of the following:
Please put an 'X' beside those that fit you and then comment on your selections.

a) Not going to church at all

b) Not going to church for a period of time

c) Going to a House Church

d) Going to another fellowship context

e) Other: _____

11. Do you feel personally disillusioned with this church group? Please describe.

12. Have you learned anything through your experience, and, if so, what?
13. What advice would you give to others who find themselves in emotionally distressful or abusive spiritual contexts?
14. Have you found a church that you now call “home”?
What criteria do you now use to select a church fellowship? Please prioritize.
15. Would you consider yourself a Pentecostal/Charismatic in experience?
Please describe.
16. What shifts in your beliefs have you recognized since this experience?
17. Do you feel that God has used this negative experience to mature you in your faith?
Please explain.
18. What have you found to be most helpful regarding your “spiritual recovery” from a negative church experience? Basically, what types of help did you find both necessary and helpful to move you forward in Christ after your disillusioning church experience? What worked for you?

Please put an ‘X’ beside those that fit your experience and then comment on your selections.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| a) Someone to confide in | b) Help from friends |
| c) Comfort from certain Scripture passages | d) Help from a minister |
| e) Involvement in a small support group | f) Participation on blogs |
| g) Reading books (Please give titles) | h) Other: _____ |

19. After this experience how was your view of God’s Word changed or affected?
20. How would you describe your journey with Christ today?

**This is the end of the Questionnaire.

THANK YOU so much for participating in this survey! Your input will add to the data regarding this topic and the information will help in understanding the issues.

→ Please RETURN your survey to Barb at: info@churchexiters.com

If you have any questions, please contact me at the same email address.

Note: If you found that participating in this survey made you realize that you still had some unresolved issues about what has happened to you, I would strongly recommend that you seek the help of a spiritual or professional counselor.

