

CSA #34 – Spring/Klein Executive Summary

Demographics:

The Spring/Klein CSA is a predominantly Anglo area located north of downtown Houston. Anglos make up about 79% of the population, Hispanics make up 12%, and African-Americans and Asians make up 5% each. The median household income and the median home value are considerably higher than those corresponding values in Greater Houston. The area is also slightly better educated than Houston as a whole. About 35% of adults have a college degree, and 8% of the adult population has not completed high school. Most households consist of married couples with children; however, about 9% of families with children are headed by single mothers.

Satisfaction levels:

The residents of the Spring/Klein area reported levels of satisfaction much higher than the rest of the city. 51% of residents reported a great deal of satisfaction with their neighborhoods, 85% reported high levels of satisfaction with their families (third highest in the city), and 75% reported high levels of satisfaction with their friends. 31% of adults successfully manage the demands of their careers and families, and 51% of residents reported being happy with their lives as a whole.

Spiritual Condition:

Residents of the Spring/Klein area show levels of spiritual awareness roughly consistent with the rest of the city. 34% of residents attend church weekly, and 9% of residents never attend church. When having problems, 41% would be likely to see a religious counselor, and 34% would seek help in a place of worship. However, the community is more spiritually aware than these statistics might indicate. 74% of residents are likely to read the Bible or other inspired literature when they have problems. Likewise, 88% of residents pray when they have problems, and 77% of residents have no doubts about the existence of God.

Interviews with Key Leaders in the Spring/Klein CSA:

According to leaders, the Spring/Klein area is a comfortable, growing, suburban middle-class community. Interviewees praised the area for its community involvement, low crime, good schools, and thriving economic climate. However, the growth the area has faced has led to traffic problems and promoted a culture of materialism. According to interviewees, this materialism feeds family dysfunction and spiritual apathy. The Church is doing its part by contributing to the community atmosphere, providing social services to the community, and praying for the community. However, leaders overwhelmingly perceived that congregations seem unwilling to work in concert with each other. Instead, congregations are very inwardly focused. This focus removes Christians from the community at large, and alienates the unchurched. Because churches can be so inwardly focused, rather than focused on the community, there is a perception that churches are competing with one another for members. One leader suggested congregations launch coordinated ministry efforts, network resources so that residents know what services are available, and make more earnest attempts to reach the primary demographic of the community.

