

So there he was high and dry. He'd spent a year at the seminary and thought he could not make it financially. When the Evangelical Synod of North America (i think) and the German Reformed Church in the U.S. (I forget the exact names) these two churches united, and formed the Evangelical Reformed Church. Then the Congregational united with a church called the Christian Church, and the Congregational held to this strong independent (independence). So the Congregational church insisted that if they made a union that any of their churches that want have a right to go out of the union. So individual Congregational churches in different parts of the country became entirely independent and are thoroughly true-- or at least they were-- when they came out.

Then when the E and R church united with the Congregational Christian Church to form the United Church of Christ the Congregationalists still insisted on that rule, and that's how my son's churches which were originally German Reformed were able to withdraw. Because they have that privilege. When we formed the Bible Presbyterian church we wrote it into the charter that any church had the right for reasons of its own to withdraw.

There are -- as to what will stay true the longest longest I don't think you can prove the type of organization. I've known of absolutely independent churches that have changed tremendously depending on who they got as a minister. I think in a church you have a few people who are wide awake, ^{in most churches} but/the bulk of the people -- Do we like his voice? Does his wife have a nice manner? Does he seem pleasant? We had a fellow who graduated from the seminary who was connected with the National Bible Institute, and there was a fine independent church in Long ^{Island} ~~Island~~. He was a good teacher, but he had a foreign brogue. They did not want him for pastor, but they