

Marks of an Effective Church, Part 2

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I. Introduction.

A. There are certain marks of an effective church.

II. A plurality of godly leaders.

III. Functional goals and objectives.

IV. A concerted effort towards discipleship.

V. A strong emphasis on community penetration.

VI. An aggressive, active ministering people.

VII. An intense mutually caring spirit.

A. We confess our sins to one another, we exhort one another, we pray for one another, etc.

B. We have a responsibility towards one another.

VIII. A genuine high level devotion to the family. (Exodus 20:21, Proverbs 30, 1 Samuel 2)

IX. A strong Bible teaching ministry.

A. Preaching is not simply about solving problems.

B. The preacher's task is to educate one in the Word of God and make that person conform to it.

C. The message is not always pleasant.

X. A willingness to change and innovate.

A. There is nothing sacred about forms.

B. There is no faith without risk. An aggressive church bursts out of old forms.

C. There must be change or we stagnate.

1. Spirit takes precedent over structure. (2 Corinthians 6:16)

2. We must be open to the Spirit.

3. Procedure must follow needs. (Matthew 15:1)

4. There is a difference between tradition and divine command.

XI. A constant effort to stretch the church's faith. There is no faith without risk. (Hebrews 11)

XII. A spirit of sacrifice.

XIII. A primary thrust on worshipping God.

Application Questions:

1. How is your church demonstrating care for one another? What contribution are you making and can you make?

2. Why do we fear change so much?

3. How is your church stretching your faith? How can you contribute to stretching your church's faith? Explain.
