

Anatomy of a Church, Part 1: The Skeleton

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I. Introduction.

- A. The development of MacArthur's church. (Ephesians 3:20)
- B. The toughest thing to deal with in ministry is apathy.
- C. Text: Deuteronomy 6:3.

II. The first obligation is to love God.

- A. The tendency is that when people are not a part of the process they forget the results.
- B. The child of apathy is criticism.
- C. The church needs everybody to be a part and contribute. (2 Peter 1:12)

III. The analogy of the body.

A. Skeleton.

1. The body has to have structure in order to operate.
2. There are some non-negotiables.
 - a. A high view of God. (James 4:8)
 - b. The priority of Scripture.
 - c. A commitment to sound doctrine.
 - d. A commitment to personal holiness. (2 Corinthians 7:1)
 - e. A recognition of spiritual authority. (Hebrews 13)

B. Internal system.

C. Muscles.

Application Questions:

1. Why is a high view of God the starting place for all things for a healthy church?

2. In what ways do you see a high view of Scripture being challenged in the culture? Explain.

3. In what ways can you grow in your personal holiness? Explain.
