

The Anatomy of a Church, Part 3: The Internal System

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I. Introduction.

A. There are essential elements for a healthy church.

B. Review of external systems.

1. A high view of God. There can be no compromise when God is truly all in all.

2. A priority of Scripture that reveals God.

3. Doctrinal clarity.

4. Personal holiness.

5. Spiritual authority.

C. There must be right internal systems, which refers to proper attitudes.

D. When one thinks right, he asks right.

II. The attitude of obedience.

III. The attitude of humility.

IV. The attitude of love, which is humility doing things.

V. Unity.

VI. Service.

A. Ministry is not just about running a program--one need to have the right motive to meet the needs of the church. (I Corinthians 4:2)

B. God has given the church a perfect category of gifts to make everyone participants in the church. One needs to have a willingness to serve. (Romans 12:4, I Corinthians 12, Philippians 2:25)

VII. Joy.

A. Joy comes out of the Word of God. (I John 14, Romans 15:17)

B. Joy comes from service.

VIII. Peace. (I Corinthians 7:15, Philippians 4, II Corinthians 13:11, I Thessalonians 5:13)

A. This is an inward contentment that says that everything is under control.

B. The security of the believer is a deep kind of contentment. (Romans 8)

C. Be a peacemaker.

IX. Thankfulness. (I Thessalonians 5:18, Psalm 30:4, 106:1, II Corinthians 9:15
Revelation 11:17, I Thessalonians 2:13, Revelation 7:23-25, I Corinthians 15:57, Daniel 2:23, II
Corinthians 2:14, Romans 6:17, 1:8, II Thessalonians 1:3, I Corinthians 1:4, II Corinthians 8:16,
Galatians 5, Psalm 34)

Application questions:

1. Why do you think attitudes are often overlooked regarding the marks of a healthy church?

2. Does one have to be on staff to serve the church? Explain.

3. What are some areas you have difficulty being thankful in? How can you grow in this area?
