

BUILDING A GREAT CHURCH

Biblical Keys to building a church that would be great in God's eyes:

- 1) Positive leadership, and healthy Leader – Laity relationships
 - a) Leaders: “servant leaders” and “shepherds” who are good role models and especially focused on prayer and the word (Mat 20:25-28; Acts 6:1-7, 20:28; Heb 13:7; I Tim 3:1-7; Titus 1: 5-9; I Pet 5:1-4).
 - b) Laity: respectful and supportive of leaders (Heb 13:7, 17).
- 2) Body works towards shared vision, goals and purposes
 - a) 5 purposes of Worship, Fellowship, Discipleship, Ministry, Evangelism
 - b) Glorify God (I Cor 10:31)
 - c) Great Commandment (Mat 22:34-40) and Great Commission (Mat 28:18-20)
- 3) Loving (Mat 22:34-40; Luke 10:25-37; John 13:34-35; I Cor 13; Heb 10:24-25; I Pet 4:8).
- 4) Forgiving (Col 3:13; Mat 18:21-35).
- 5) Accepting (Rom 14:1, 15:7; John 4:1-42, 8:1-11; Acts 16:11-40).
- 6) Grace Oriented (2 Tim 1:8-10, 2:1; 2 Pet 3:18; Lk 19:1-10, 23:40-43).
- 7) God/Jesus centered and focused on worship, teaching God's word, and partnering with Him (John 12:32; Acts 2:42-47; 2 Cor 3:3).
- 8) Praying church, empowered by the Holy Spirit (Mk 1:35; Luke 11:1-15; Acts 1:8, 12-14; I Cor 4:20; 2 Cor 3:3)

- 9) Meeting people's needs (see "one another" handout)
- 10) Unified, healthy body with functioning members (Acts 4:32; Rom 12:3-16; I Cor 12:12-27).
- 11) Committed members (time, talents, treasures; loyal; supportive; willing to change and sacrifice, etc.) (Acts 2:42-47, 4:32-35; I Cor 12:12-27)
- 12) Healthy Group image; hospitable; celebrate regularly (Acts 2:42-47; Rom 12:13,15; Jam 5:13; Heb 13:15; Ps 145:7; Ps 150)

CASE STUDY: Early New Testament church (Book of Acts, especially 2:42-47)