



3 SIGNS *of a* HEALTHY CHURCH

Whether you're brand new to town or a brand new Christian, finding a new church can be overwhelming. Wherever you are in your walk with God, we want to share with you three signs of a healthy church. Whether you decide to attend Central Church or God has plans for you elsewhere, we believe every church needs to incorporate these three areas into their ministry.

LOOK FOR A CHURCH THAT:

- 1. Faithfully proclaims the Word.**
- 2. Loves God and neighbors through witness.**
- 3. Exists for the purpose of worship.**

Let's look at these one by one to help you out.



FAITHFULLY PROCLAIMS *the* WORD

Methods of ministry change all the time.

Some churches have an impact on young adults, and some reach senior adults. Some use events to reach the community, and some focus purely on Sunday morning worship. Some meet in church buildings, and some churches meet in homes. But there's one thing they all need to have in common: everything must be centered on the Word of God.

The Bible is the foundation of our faith. Every sermon, every teaching, and every class must be driven by Scripture. When looking for a healthy church, make sure their beliefs come from the Bible.

“ *All Scripture is
breathed out by
God and profitable for
teaching, for reproof, for
correction, and for training
in righteousness,*

-2 Timothy 3:16 ESV



2

LOVES GOD & NEIGHBORS THROUGH WITNESS

Jesus is the only way to salvation.

Because of Jesus' great love for us, He lived a life of obedience on our behalf, took the punishment for our sins on Himself, and died on the cross. But three days later, having defeated death, Jesus rose from the dead. If we repent of our sins and trust in Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we are forgiven our sins.

But it doesn't stop there. We cannot be content to merely call Jesus "Lord" and then move on with our lives. We must live and act in response to Jesus' Lordship. Unfortunately, churches sometimes forget that we are commanded to share the Good News and make disciples of Jesus Christ.

True love for God compels us to gather together, give financially, and lay down our lives for the sake of the gospel. Through missions, evangelism, and serving others, churches must share the love of Christ with their community and the world. To do otherwise is directly disobeying what Jesus has commanded us to do.

“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” And he [Jesus] said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”
- Matthew 22: 36-29

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.”
- Matthew 28:19



3

EXISTS *for the* PURPOSE OF WORSHIP

What is worship? Ask ten people, and you'll receive ten answers. Some people will even try to convince you that worship is the style of music we sing in church services.

Just like methods of ministry, churches can choose to worship in multiple ways. The worship most people are familiar with is songs of praise. But worship is much deeper than that.

Worship is our response to who God is and what He has done for us. We sometimes choose to worship through music, but we also choose to worship when we serve others, pray, and seek to live out God's will from the heart. Every facet of our lives should be an act of worship.

Churches gather together every week to worship God. We are not here to worship our country, our accomplishments, each other, or our preference of musical style. Our only focus is on God, seeking His will and learning to glorify Him through our words and our ways.

“ Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”

- John 4:23-24

“ Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

- Romans 12:1-2



If you have questions about these three items, we would love to hear from you! Our only desire is to see you gathering under God's Word with God's people so that you can grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. If you're looking for a church in the Greater Memphis Area, we know a few that might be an excellent fit for you.

And of course, you're always welcome at Central. We consider ourselves a family and would love for you to be a part of our family as well. So, if you'd like to check us out, make sure to plan your visit!

Plan Your Visit

We'll make sure you have a great experience as a first-time guest.

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