

# WHAT IS CHURCH?

## MARKS OF A HEALTHY CHURCH, PART 1

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### Introduction

- ❖ Jesus is to be glorified in the church – *Ephesians 3:20-21*
- ❖ So what are marks of a healthy, God-glorifying church?
- ❖ Two goals:
  - God, through Scripture, sufficiently describes how to do church
  - Gives guidelines how to evaluate a church

### I. **Expositional Preaching**

- ❖ Exposing the Meaning of the Text
- ❖ Alternatives: “Feel-good” preaching, spring-board preaching, emergent-style preaching
- ❖ Preaching the Word – *2 Timothy 4:2, Acts 20:27, Nehemiah 8:8*

### II. **Biblical Church Leadership**

- ❖ Elder led – *Titus 1:5, 6-9*
- ❖ Deacons Support the Elders – *Acts 6:1-4*
- ❖ The Role of Women – *Genesis 2:18, 3:16, 1 Timothy 2:11-13, Romans 16:1-2*

### III. **A Biblical Understanding of Church Membership**

- ❖ Practical Reasons
  - Shows commitment to a church
  - Protects from a “dating the church” mentality
  - Defines “the flock” for church leaders to shepherd
- ❖ Biblical Evidences
  - “Shepherding the flock of God among you” ...who?
  - Lists kept regarding widows in *1 Timothy 5:9*
  - Paul wrote to specific churches
  - Unity of the church as a “body” – *Romans 4:4-8*

### IV. **A Biblical View of Church Restoration (Discipline)**

*Matthew 18:15-18*

- (1) The Motive of Church Restoration
- (2) Church Restoration is for Professing Believers
- (3) Church Restoration is Necessary for the Church’s Witness

### Next Week:

- V. A Biblical View of the Sovereignty of God
- VI. A Biblical Understanding of Evangelism
- VII. A Biblical Understanding of the Gospel & Conversion
- VIII. Proper Administering of the Ordinances
- IX. A Concern for Discipleship & Growth

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matt@gbcmt.org