

Gifts of Grace

Week 1: The Vital Signs of a Healthy Church

June 26 2022

Pastor Ben Bufkin



Matthew 16:18, Acts 2:41-47

Individual believers who make up the universal church and who live in a local context make the habit of gathering together for common Gospel purpose, for spiritual growth, and encouragement.

1. Vital sign One: Biblical Nourishment

Acts 2:42, Nehemiah 8:1-3, Nehemiah 8:6, 1 Timothy 4:6, 11, 13, 16

When the Word of God is not prioritized in the life of the church, God's people grow spiritually anemic

All true spiritual awakenings involve the opening of and teaching from God's Word.

God designed the church to be a place where His Word is proclaimed and explained

2. Vital Sign number two: Loving Fellowship

Acts 2:42, 44, 46, Hebrews 10:23-25

Some questions to ask ourselves as a church:

- Do you have fellowship with God through Jesus?
- Are you working at building deep relationships with others in the church?
- Could it be that you love the idea of community more than the actual people in your church?
- Are you complaining about a lack of community rather than asserting yourself to serve and love others in your congregation?
- Do you arrive early enough to interact with people on Sunday, or are you a ninja, slipping in late and excusing yourself early?

3. Vital Sign number three: Vibrant Worship

Acts 2:42-43a, Acts 2:43, Psalm 42:1-4, Psalm 84:1-2, 10

4. Vital Sign number four: Word and deed Outreach

Acts 2:45, Matthew 28:19-20

555 Plan:

- 5 people: One from each network.
- Commit to do one of 5 things: Pray for them. Serve them. Give gospel-centered literature to them. Invite them. Speak the Gospel to them.
Family | Work | Neighborhood | Recreation | Commercial

Where do we need to grow? Where can we get stronger?