

THE ANATOMY OF A CHURCH

- I. WHAT KIND OF CHURCH DO WE WANT?
 - A. To be a praising church.
 - B. To be a praying church.
 - C. To be a ministering church.
 - 1. Loving church.
 - 2. Forgiving church.
 - 3. Accepting church.
 - D. To be a prophetic church.
 - 1. Standard and voice in darkened world.
 - 2. Relevant to the times.
 - E. To be a place of refuge and refreshing.
 - 1. Place of uplifting and refreshing.
 - 2. Place of renewal.
 - 3. Place of new beginnings.

- II. PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH.
 - A. The extension of Christ in the earth.
 - B. Winning the lost.
 - C. Helping people to live a spirit-filled life.
 - D. Ministering to hurting people.
 - E. Helping people to grow into maturity.
 - F. Helping people to walk in unity and love.
 - G. Helping to develop fruit of the spirit.

- III. BELIEVERS HAVE RESPONSIBILITY TO BETTER THE MINISTRY BY GIVING OF THEMSELVES TO IT.
 - A. By faithful attendance to all meetings possible.
 - 1. Arriving on time, or even early.
 - 2. Fellowshiping with other believers.
 - B. By showing warmth and love to visitors and members.
 - 1. Hugs.
 - 2. Touching each other in love (with proper discretion).
 - 3. Exhorting in love.
 - 4. Speaking appropriate words.
 - C. By becoming involved in some area of ministry in the church.
 - 1. Nursery.
 - 2. Pre-school.
 - 3. Elementary levels of Sunday School.
 - 4. Children's Church.
 - 5. Youth ministries.
 - 6. Singles.
 - 7. Adults.
 - 8. Elderly.
 - 9. Intercession.

10. Maintenance.
 11. Worship and praise.
 12. Outreaches.
 13. Home Fellowship Groups.
 14. Ushers and Greeters.
 15. Phone calling.
 16. Any other areas of need.
- D. All believers have a responsibility to pray regularly for their leaders

SERVING: THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY.

- A. Nobody ever becomes a leader without first becoming, and remaining, a server. A person with a true servant's heart ministers out of love, not obligation or bondage.
1. A true server ministers without complaint.
 2. A true server always goes the extra mile, doing more than what is required. God, in return, will always reward him.
 3. A server will improve his effectiveness in ministry if he will become dependable.
 - a. If he says, Let's meet for lunch at 12:00 today, he will be there at 12:00 or earlier.
 - b. If he has made commitments, he sticks to them!
 - c. If he cannot meet someone or do something as expected and planned, he will be sure to call and notify the proper people, so that they can make new plans.
 4. A server will improve his effectiveness if he views his position of ministry as a privilege, and not a stepping stone to bigger and greater things. Although those who are faithful in less responsible positions are promoted, the attitude must be humble and not glory-seeking in order for the Lord to bless it.
 - a. Otherwise, he will be open to the attacks of Satan, especially if his promotion is slow in coming.
 - b. He should not view his ministry as inferior in any way--God set him there.
 - c. He should rest in the Lord, and be faithful where he is, unconcerned about possible future promotions.
- B. A server will improve his effectiveness if he maintains a balance between being fed the Word and ministering to the needs of the people.
1. Balance will be maintained if he comes to at least two services a week.

One service where he can be fed himself.

Another service where he can minister to others.

Some common excuses for refusing to serve in the local church:

"It's not my calling."

"I need to rest from my job."

"I need to rest from my housework and kids."

"I need to hear the Word preached every service."

"I don't have time."

"I'll give extra offering to the church instead of helping personally."

"I don't agree with the way my church operates."

"Nobody really cares about me and what I do in the church."

"I don't have anything to offer."