

# Marks of a Healthy Church

## Session 1

### *Introduction*

#### I. Marks of the True Church:

A. *The Right* \_\_\_\_\_ *of the* \_\_\_\_\_ *of* \_\_\_\_\_.

1. *Scripture is to be* \_\_\_\_\_ *and* \_\_\_\_\_. (2 Timothy 3:16-4:2)

2. *The Gospel is to be* \_\_\_\_\_ . (Galatians 1:8, 1 Timothy 3:15)

B. *The* \_\_\_\_\_ *of Administration of the* \_\_\_\_\_.

1. *Observe the* \_\_\_\_\_ . (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

2. *Observe the Lord's Supper* \_\_\_\_\_ . (1 Corinthians 11:20-29)

3. \_\_\_\_\_ *Members of the* \_\_\_\_\_ *Community* (Matthew 28:19)

a. *Churches Differ On* \_\_\_\_\_ *To Baptize*

§ Desert Springs-- why?

§ Others— why?

b. *Churches Differ On* \_\_\_\_\_ *To Baptize*

§ Desert Springs-- why?

§ Others— why?

C. \_\_\_\_\_ *for the Brethren.* (John 13:35)

1. *Commanded/Commended Repeatedly*

John 13:34-35; 15:12,17; Romans 12:10; 1 Thessalonians 4:9; 1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 3:11,23 ;  
4:7,11,12; 2 John 1:5

2. *Includes* \_\_\_\_\_ —*Ref. Article 29 of the Belgic Confession*

**Revelation 3:19 ; Luke 17:3 ; Matthew 18:15-17; 1 Corinthians 5:4-5,13; 2 Thessalonians 3:6,14; Titus 3:10; Hebrews 12:7**

3. *Necessary but not* \_\_\_\_\_.

## II. Marks of a Healthy Church:

### A. \_\_\_\_\_ *Preaching.*

*Paul—Final Charge to Timothy and the Church (2 Timothy 4:1-2)*

...preachers are not commanded simply to go and preach. They are commanded specifically to go and preach the \_\_\_\_\_.<sup>1</sup>

#### 1. *Defined*

... is that preaching which takes for the point of a \_\_\_\_\_ the point of a particular \_\_\_\_\_ of Scripture. That's it. The preacher opens the Word and unfolds it for the people of God.<sup>2</sup>

#### 2. *Priority*

*Dever's View— from p.25*

- » Most important of the marks because from it, \_\_\_\_\_
- » The \_\_\_\_\_ of any pastor is expositional preaching
- » If you get the priority of the Word established, then you have in place the single most important aspect of the church's life, and growing healthy is virtually assured

#### 3. *Centrality/Authority (John 1:1-3,14; Hebrews 1:1-2; Romans 10:13-17)*

It is important that we understand that the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ is God's chosen means of reconciling sinners to himself.

<sup>ESV</sup> **Matthew 4:4** But he answered, "It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

Dever concludes the section on the central role of the Word of God:

... , *the church of God, can only be created around the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.*<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Dever, *Nine Marks of a Healthy Church*, p. 27.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. p. 26.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. p. 36. (emphasis added)