

The Healthy Church  
2016 Gospel Light Church – Singapore (Kuala Lumpur)  
2017 McNeeley Church Tallahassee  
2016 Sau Paolo Pastors

Have a lop-sided discussion

## 1. The Priority of Church Health

**Which is most honoring** to Christ

-Large church w/wide influence and impact

Or

-Equally faithful church but small influence and impact

**Not impressed** with size

-Sometimes, because unhealthy

-\*If I were to add 200 lbs

## 2. 12 Characteristics Of A Healthy Church

(add pp 2-6 of notes from 2014 G.A. Seminar)

1) They embark on a journey of faith

-“Attempt something ....”

-Never say “Is it possible.”

-Story of believing God was calling me to leave Perimeter

2) They choose influence over success.

-Story of Church of Irr Inf (Robert Lewis)

- Isolated church
- Church of success
- Church of influence

3) They embrace ministries of the head, heart & hand

-Lunch with N.P. pastor

-Jonathan Edwards

4) They are intentional about making mature and equipped followers of Christ.

-Single greatest discover in ministry

-Life on life

-Ken Blanchard

<u>Directing</u>	-T
<u>Coaching</u>	-E
<u>Supporting</u>	-A
<u>Delegating</u>	-M
	-S

Who are disciple makers

5) They equip people to appropriate the power of the Holy Spirit

-How many in our churches?

-Perimeter.org/Pope

6) They emphasize the marriage of grace & duty

-Balanced walk analogy

- Theological / Practical
- Legalism / Antinomianism

-Sociological / Psychological issues

- Craving unconditional love
- Perceive duty as a condition of acceptance vs. friend of acceptance

7) They destroy the ministry idols of tradition and preference

-Spoke at G.A.

-“Become all things to all people...” 1 Cor 9

-Story of Memphis Church

8) They don't compromise spiritual nutrition for the sake of simplicity & growth.

-Not simple church

-Philosophy, theology, ecclesiology

9) They provide healthy environments for worship & feeding rather than environments for entertainment and self-help inspiration

-not seeker church

-diet of total depravity & who God is  
& His ways vs. what we do

10) They correctly steward the keys to the Kingdom and the sacraments

-the true church

-Mt. 16

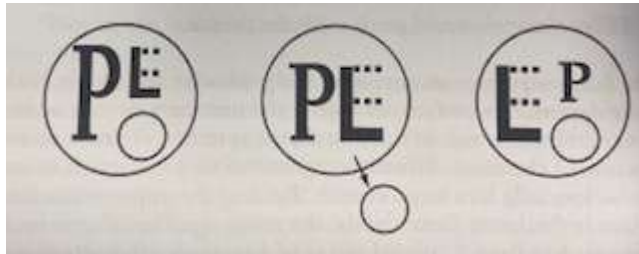
-Marriage request

11) They underscore all their teaching with the realities of the authentic gospel and of Christ as the only hope of glory

-We lost it all ...

-Story of glory

12) They allow their pastor to focus on shepherding through his teaching, leading & equipping



-Story of Joe

**3. To Be Healthy, A Church Must Be Intentional About:**

- 1) Making Disciples (unbelief to belief)
- 2) Training Disciples (belief to maturity)
- 3) Developing Leaders (maturity to leadership)

**4. To Be Intentional About Taking People From Unbelief To Leadership Requires An Effective Plan To Do So.**

-importance of **business plan**

-**also**, life, family & ministry plan

**\*impact of good plan** to investing

## 5. To Have An Effective Plan One Must Embrace A Healthy Model.

### 1) The Importance Of Models

- Pastor = model maker
  - not nec. model designers
- models marry dream to function
  - dreams (vision/mission)
  - function (execution)
- can't execute a dream w/o a model

### 2) Four Categories Of Models

#### (1) The Pastoral Model

- Pre 1970s
- fought to preserve tradition
- irrelevant to changing world
- Gadsden 1<sup>st</sup> Pres

## (2) The Attractional Model

- more missional (seeker model)
- consumerism – birthed as never before
- needs vs wants = separated
- partly good
- but limited to weekly meetings
- what about
  - homeless, poor, uneducated, abused
- though pastor & attractional often merged
  - still something missing

## (3) The Influential Model

- looked outside walls
- now gospel +  
Food, clothing, advocacy, ed, etc.
- valued “community transformation”  
More than attendance
- but something missing ...

-needed new model w/believers who were

- pastoral, attractional, & influential

But also

- Christ-like, Christ-honoring spouses / parents / employees & employers & who were mature & equipped

-needed a new model

- yet as old as God's Word

-introduced to me nearly 50 years ago

(4) Life-On-Life Model

-Perimeter's story

## 6. To Be An Effective Model, One Must Learn To Dream.

-How to birth a dream

- PPP time

\*My father

\*Picture of Perimeter 20 years prior

