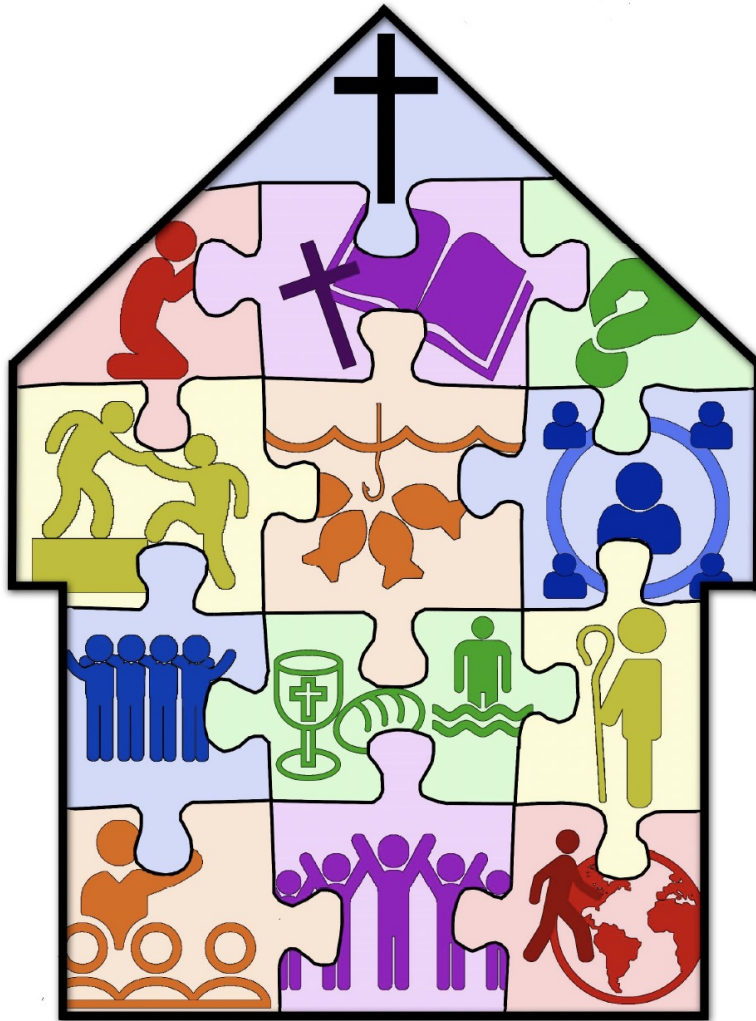




“I would be a lot healthier if you’d stop finding things wrong with me!”

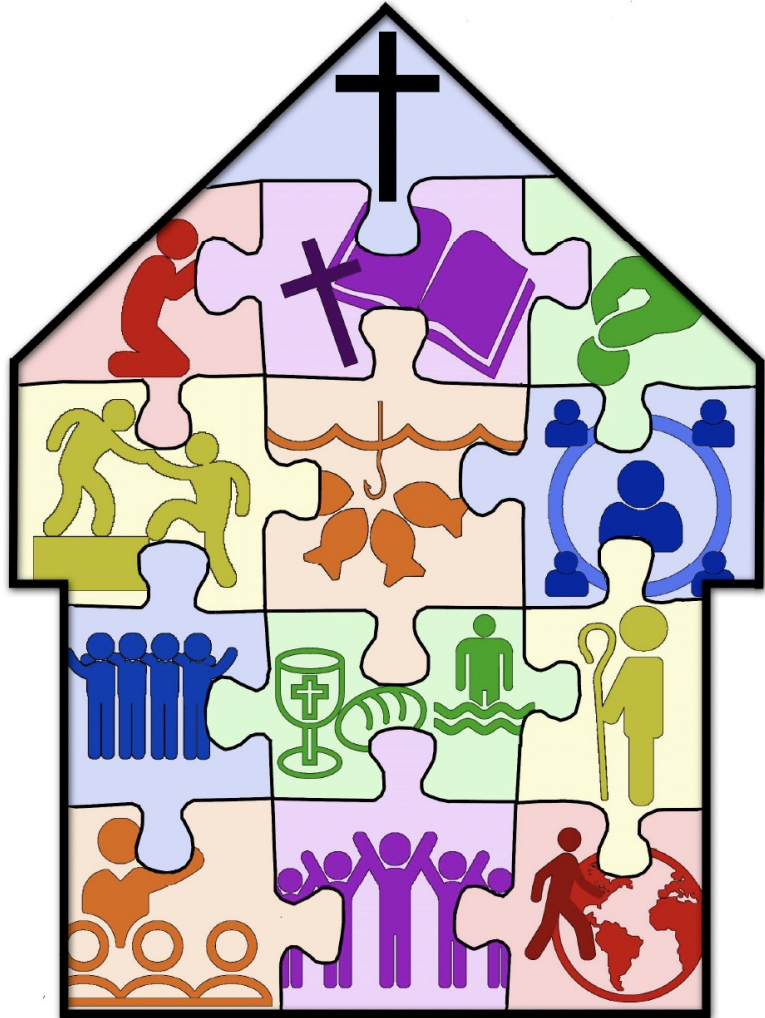


Come and see for yourself

John 1:35–46

Thoughts on being a healthy
church in the presence of God





When the Spirit of God is working

among the people of God

through the Word of God

healthy growth follows

John 1:35-46 (NIV)

35 The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. 36 When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, “Look, the Lamb of God!” 37 When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. 38 Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, “What do you want?” They said, “Rabbi” (which means “Teacher”), “where are you staying?”

39 “Come,” he replied, “and you will see.”

So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon.

40 Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. 41 The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which, when translated, is Peter).

43 The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, “Follow me.” 44 Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. 45 Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”

46 “Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” Nathanael asked.

“Come and see,” said Philip.

1. Unhealthy churches become self-focused

Focus is on:

Preferences
Comfort
Traditions
Survival
Reputation

When it should be on:

The worship of God
The glory of Christ
The mission of the Gospel
Spiritual growth of People
Reaching the Lost

1. Unhealthy churches become self-focused



2. Healthy churches shaped by the presence of God

**AND THEY DEVOTED THEMSELVES
TO THE APOSTLES' TEACHING
AND THE FELLOWSHIP,
TO THE BREAKING OF BREAD
AND THE PRAYERS.**

ACTS 2:42

2. Healthy churches shaped by the presence of God

Transformation by the Holy Spirit:

repentance of sin

grow in holiness

people forgive one another

here is a hunger for Scripture

serving joyfully

loving sacrificially



3. Healthy churches naturally invite others



3. Healthy churches naturally invite others



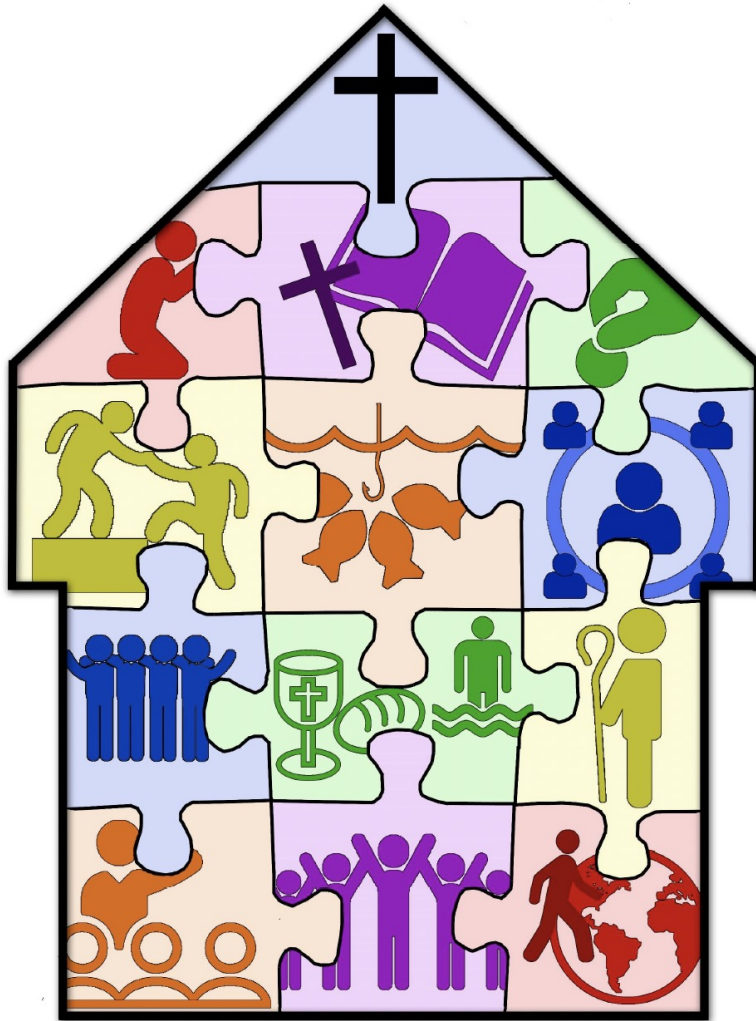
4. God gives the growth

“I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.”

(1 Corinthians 3:6–7)

“And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.”

(Acts 2:47)



Come and see for yourself

John 1:35–46

Thoughts on being a healthy
church in the presence of God

