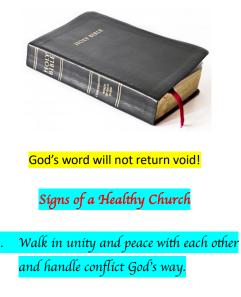
Divine Life Church Worship & Training Center

5270 Riverdale, Memphis, TN 38141 ~ 901-745-8149 ~ info.divinelifememphis.org Let's Connect: December 13, 2023, 2023

Shepherds vs. Hirelings IV Apostle Tony Wade Signs of a Healthy Church

Healthy churches have a spiritual growth atmosphere. God's word is the foundation for the doctrine (teaching) of the house. The truth of God's word is evident in the life's of the leadership. Biblical principles are adhered to and applied in the lives of the believers (shepherds, watchmen, and sheep). The congregants walk in unity and peace as well as handle conflict God's way. When issues arise, the church has protocols of discipline that are followed.



Ephesians 4: 13 – 16

A. Growth requires maturity. Mature believers are able to rightly divide the word of truth. Mature believers have moved from milk to meat. Mature believers are able to walk in unity and peace. Children stay divided and are feed milk. Immature churches are divided.

- a. Are you able to walk in unity and peace with others? Explain.
- b. Do you handle conflict God's way?

Ezekiel 34: 11 – 24

- A. God's word is good pasture and designed to grow you spiritually. Shepherds are to teach the truth of God's word.
 - a. What kind of student are you?
 - b. Are you a good student of the word?
 - Is the fruit of what's being taught evident in your life? (Are others able to see Jesus in you?)
 - d. Do you live God's word in your public life?
- B. DLC's mission comes from verse Ezekiel 34: 16
 - a. Reach the lost.
 - b. Bring back the scattered.
 - c. Heal the broken hearted.
 - d. Strengthen the weak.
 - i. Do you echo the mission of DLC?
 - ii. How is the mission exemplified in your life?
- C. Leadership (shepherds) should operate with principles and values rooted in truth. Believers are to hear and apply the word in their daily life. God's truth is the baseline for all decisions and the guide for life's situations.
 - a. How do you apply the word in the following:
 - i. Marriage
 - ii. Work
 - iii. Family
 - iv. Social Media

2. Practice church discipline

1 Corinthians 5: 1 – 13

- A. Because a shepherd watches for your soul, church discipline is required. According to the word, believers are not to judge those outside of the body, but we are able to judge our brothers and sisters in Christ.
 - a. How do believers "judge" their brothers and sisters in Christ?
 - b. How does "leaven" affect the body of Christ?
 - c. What happens to the local church when there are no parameters and consequences?

7 Stages of Offense

1. Hurt: perceived or actual

2. Unforgiveness. Forgiveness is about you not the other person. Forgiveness doesn't mean you reconcile with the person. It means you forgive their debt. Reconciliation requires transformation.

3. Anger. Don't let the sun go down on your wrath. Spirits travel together. Murderous spirits are anger, rage, and murder.

4. Bitterness. Root of bitterness many people become defiled.

5. Hatred.

6. Betrayal.

7. Revenge. Romans 12:17-21 Law of sowing and reaping. Pray for mercy for those that have wronged you. Sow mercy reap mercy. Sow an eye for an eye. Reap an eye for an eye. Bless those that curse you.

Website:

www.DivineLifeMemphis.org

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Notes:	