

Principle: When Christ is at the center of the church, eventually some methods and traditions will change.

There comes a time in every church when things change for the sake of the future rather than at the expense of the future.

It's my experience that when you teach a church things it didn't know were in the Bible, it can feel similar to changing what we believe.

There is a lag between implementation of new methods and the results you are looking for.

Not every change in a church is aimed at the same result, but the sum of the changes should result in healthy growth.

Principle: Rigid refusal to change to stay in step with the Spirit will destroy a legacy and forsake the future.

Eventually the traditions and methods in a Christ-centered church will change, we must work to make sure our hearts and minds stay flexible so we can continue to be faithful.

Truth: Jesus is the promised Christ, and New Covenant cannot be contained in the Old Covenant.

Jesus reveals in this parable that He is the promised Messiah.

Jesus teaches that what He is doing will fulfill and replace the Old Covenant God made with Israel.

Jesus establishes the New Covenant through the cross and confirms it through the empty grave.

New Covenant traditions and practices are grounded in the grace of God rather than the law.

1. God's people are to be characterized by Joy at what God is doing, not criticism.
2. God's people are characterized by a commitment to truth more than tradition
3. God's people are characterized by flexible and willing hearts, not rigid and stubborn ones.

What about you?

Is your heart flexible and willing to follow the Lord? Or is your heart rigid and stubborn and will only go so far?