

The Biblical Pattern for A Healthy Church

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Ephesians 4:11-16

A healthy church is a church where each person in the body is learning to function as a healthy part of the body. In order for a church to be healthy and function effectively, the best time to develop a healthy body is right from the beginning. The health of a church is determined by the maturity of the leadership and an understanding by that leadership of how they build a healthy body.

Before a church has its first public service, it is wise to have the leadership team already exercising their gifts in the development of those who are becoming Christians. Ephesians 4:11-16 gives us a pattern for healthy church development. God is the One who gifts people for leadership as they mature

Ephesians 4:11-12 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, (NKJV)

God is the giver of the equipping gifts He gave apostles They gave us eyewitness testimony of the resurrection - Acts 1:21-22 He gave prophets They gave us the written Word of God - II Peter 1:19-21 These gave us our foundation on which the church stands

Ephesians 2:19-22 He gave evangelists to equip the saints for the ministry of evangelism (we are all to learn to evangelize - Mark 16:15, Acts 1:8) He gave pastors to equip the saints to minister to one another (we are all to learn to serve one another in love - Galatians 5:13) He gave teachers to equip the saints to teach the Word of God (we are all to be ready to teach the Word of God - I Peter 3:15)

The goal is the building up of the body of Christ, the church!