

Digging Deeper  
June 5, 2011  
Jesus' Checklist For A Healthy Local Church  
Southside Bible Church/Greenwood, Indiana

In Revelation Chapter 2 and 3 Jesus critiques seven local churches. He identifies both their strengths and weaknesses. Let's discuss how to apply this critique to Southside Bible Church.

The following are ten (10) elements that I believe the Lord wants to see healthy at Southside Bible Church:

1. Lives being changed. Morality. Victory over addictions. Godly people. Godly families. Strong marriages. Believers spending time in the Word of God. Spiritual maturity. Agree?
2. A church where the Word of God is always important. Studied. Memorized. Revered. Taught to obey. Emphasis on the meta-narrative. Agree?
3. Evangelistic. Reaching the lost and un-churched in our community. Agree?
4. Perpetuity. A church that will be a strong witness for a long-time in our community. Agree?
5. A local church that prepares and sends many young people into ministry. Agree?
6. A local church that demonstrates daily the power of God....not the wisdom of men. Agree?
7. A strong mission's ministry. Agree?
8. A church family that is united, loving and full of joy. Agree?
9. A very benevolent church that is intentional about caring for the needs of the church family. Agree?
10. A church that prays and depends upon prayer. Agree?

I. Discuss practical....intentional things that we can do to contribute to the health of these ten areas.

II. How would you critique Southside Bible Church in each of these ten areas?

III. What other major areas would you add to this list of ten?