

HEALTHY  
CHURCH

A black silhouette of a church building with a cross on top and a red heart in the center.

Keystone



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# What Is A Church?

The church is a people called out of the world by God and unto Himself.

➤ **Being Precedes Doing**



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## **Vision Statement**

The vision of Keystone Bible Church is to be a God-centered, healthy community of faith.



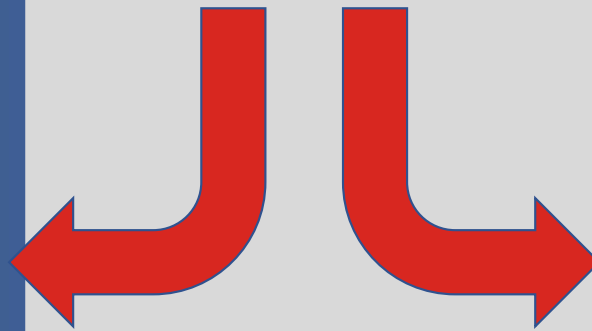
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The vision of Keystone Bible Church is to be a God-centered, healthy community of faith.

#1

*God-Centered*



*Healthy*

#2



*Keystone*

## **A God-centered Church**

- ❖ Being God-centered means that we live to do His will and glorify Him by doing the work He has given us.
- ❖ Being God-centered means, then, that **God's glory is our only motivation and measurement of our ministry.**

## A God-centered Church

**?** *How does that influence our approach to ministry (our mission)?* **?**

- **It Gives Purpose:** our ultimate goal for ministry
- **It Describes Process:** how we seek to reach that goal
- **It Defines the Product:** what goal accomplishment looks like



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## Mission Statement

The mission of Keystone Bible Church is to honor God by making and maturing disciples who are becoming like Jesus Christ.



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Purpose

Process

Product



# A God-centered Church

## *A God-Centered Purpose*

- “We exist to honor God”

- ✓ For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever.” (Romans 11:36)
- ✓ Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. (1 Corinthians 10:31)
- ✓ To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen. (Eph. 3:21)



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# A God-centered Church

## *A God-Centered Process*

- “by making and maturing disciples”
  - ✓ We exist to be disciples of Christ, and to reproduce ourselves by making other fully dedicated disciples of Christ, who will in turn make more fully dedicated disciples of Christ.
  - ✓ Intentional, life-on-life relationship.
  - ✓ Be one, make one.



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## Matthew 28:19-20

Go therefore and *make disciples* of all the nations...teaching them to observe all that I commanded you.



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## **Matthew 4:19**

Follow Me, and I will make you  
fishers of men.

# A God-centered Church

## *3 Dimensions of a God-centered Discipleship Process*

1. **Follow Me:** A learner and worshipper of Jesus at the *head level*



**Upward:** Worship & Adoration

2. **I will make You:** Being changed daily by Jesus at the *heart level*



**Inward:** Growth in Sanctification

3. **Fishers of Men:** Committed to the mission of Jesus at the *hands and feet level*



**Outward:** Evangelism & Service

A disciple is a person who is fully dedicated to following Christ, is being changed by Christ, and is committed to the mission of Christ.



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# A God-centered Church

## *A God-Centered Product*

- “Becoming like Jesus Christ”
  - New Creatures
    - 2 Corinthians 5:17
    - Ephesians 4:22-24



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## 2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.



## Ephesians 4:22-24

In reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

# A God-centered Church

## *A God-Centered Product*

- “Becoming like Jesus Christ”

- New Creatures in Christ

- 2 Corinthians 5:17

- Ephesians 4:22-24

- New Community in Christ

- Marked by Unity

- Marked by Purity



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## Marked by Unity

For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace, and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity. (Ephesians 2:14-16)

## Marked by Purity

Just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

(Ephesians 5:25-27)



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# A God-centered Church

*Okay, make it practical...*

*? What will a God-centered church do and what will the experience be like? ?*



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# A God-centered Church

## *3 Governing Principles Based On Our Vision and Mission Statements*

- We believe in God-centered vs. Man-centered Ministry
- We believe in People-oriented vs. Program-oriented Ministry
- We believe in Process-focused vs. Event-focused Ministry (*Sanctification / Discipleship*)



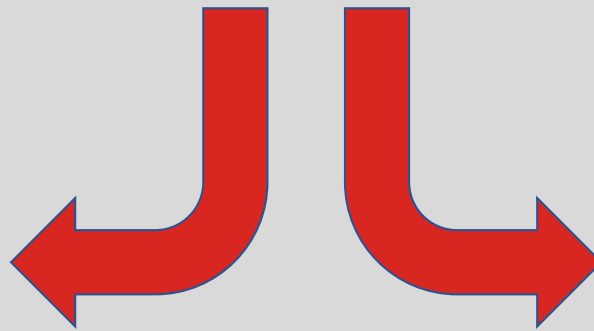
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**#1**

*God-  
Centered*



*Healthy*

**#2**



# A Healthy Church

*Intentional*



- It's time to do a baggage check.



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# A Healthy Church

## *Obstacles to Intentional Church Health*

### • Confusing Form and Function

- **Functions** are the direct Biblical instruction for the church.
  - ✓ *What the church is to do.*
  - ✓ *Very general in the New Testament*

# A Healthy Church

## *Obstacles to Intentional Church Health*

### • Confusing Form and Function

- **Forms** are the methods by which the Church fulfills those functions.
  - ✓ *How the church puts it into practice.*
  - ✓ *Often not described in the NT*
  - ✓ *Often incomplete when they are described in the NT*
  - ✓ *Always changing in a local church*



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# A Healthy Church

*We strive for church health by structuring our ministry forms to facilitate the following functions from Acts 2:42-47:*

1. Learning experiences with the Word of God
2. Worship experiences as a lifestyle in private and public
3. Relational experiences with other believers
4. Witnessing experiences with the world



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# A Healthy Church

## *Obstacles to Intentional Church Health*

- Confusing Form and Function
- Defending the Status Quo
- Reaction to the abuses of numerical growth
- Traditionalism
- Irresponsibility
- Unnecessary Barriers
- Mixed Agendas
- Imbalance



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# A Healthy Church

## *Vital Signs of a Healthy Church*

- Gospel Driven
- Vision Motivated
- Authentic Worship
- Effective Expository Preaching
- Dynamic Discipleship
- Intercessory Prayer
- Servant Leadership



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## A Healthy Church

- The objective of Keystone Bible is church health, not church growth.
- However, a healthy church is marked by spiritual vitality, functional effectiveness, and statistical growth in its life and ministry.
- Therefore, we will seek to be a healthy church and expect to grow as a result.



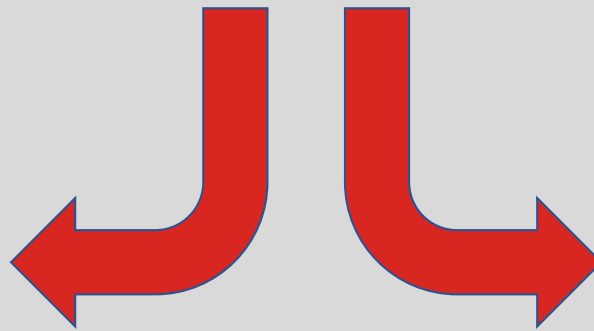
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# God Centered & Healthy

## ***We Are Asking God For:***

- *A church family that...* loves the preaching, teaching, and study of the Word.
  - *A church family that...* loves the unashamed adoration of Jesus.
  - *A church family that...* loves one another and loves being together.
  - *A church family that...* boldly reaches out to the world with the Gospel
1. Learning experiences with the Word of God
  2. Worship experiences as a lifestyle in private and public
  3. Relational experiences with other believers
  4. Witnessing experiences with the world

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