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Hints on Church Growth



Church Growth is Possible (Acts 2:47; 6:1).

With the birth of children, there are periods of physical growth. Growth is natural and is expected.

Likewise, the church (the body of Christ), is a living organism and should be expected to grow. When people are spiritually born there are opportunities for:

- ☑ Spiritual Growth—from babe to maturity
- ☑ Numerical Growth—there are unreached non Christians (John 3:3-5; 4:35), lonely religious people who need full truth, and backsliders who need to return to God. These are to be won and added to the church.

Who is Responsible for Church Growth?

- ☑ All Christians (those who have obeyed Acts 2:37-38). This includes leaders and congregation.
- ☑ To have genuine church growth, leaders and congregation must have:
 1. The right attitude
 2. The right methods
 3. The right doctrine

Reasons for Church Growth:

- ☑ It fulfills and reflects the purpose of God (Genesis 1:26-28).
- ☑ It meets the expectation of Jesus Christ (Acts 2:47).
- ☑ It speeds up the imminent return of Jesus Christ (Matthew 24:27).

Principles to Apply for Church Growth:

- ☑ Fervent prayer and fasting (Matthew 17:21).
- ☑ Steadfast faith (I Corinthians 15:58).
- ☑ Allowing the gifts of the spirit to operate/function (I Corinthians 12:1-10; 4:1-40; Ephesians 4:11).
- ☑ Discipling and evangelism (personal evangelism, tract distribution, invitation, mass evangelism, visitation, etc.)

- ☑ Churches should provide counseling, sound Bible study, lively praise and worship, fellowship, prayer meetings, revivals, workshops, seminars, crusades, conferences, etc.

Characteristics of a Growing Church:

- ☑ Members respect their leaders and highly esteem them.
- ☑ Love and unity.
- ☑ Members take work/assignments seriously and use their time, talents, and treasures properly for the work of the Lord.
- ☑ Members are dedicated/ committed and are involved in fervent praise, worship, and fellowship (visitation among themselves).
- ☑ Ministry and spiritual gifts in operation, saturated with Holiness (lifting up holy standards).
- ☑ Membership increasing with proper stewardship.
- ☑ Membership involved in prayer and fasting.

Hindrances to Church Growth:

- ☑ Lack of love and unity
- ☑ Lack of prayer
- ☑ Envy and Strife
- ☑ Greed for power
- ☑ Ethnocentrism (our ethnic group/culture is better than their ethnic group/culture)
- ☑ Racism
- ☑ Being tied to ungodly traditions.
- ☑ Being tied to non-productive methods of church operation. “If you always do what you have always done, you will always get what you have always gotten.”
- ☑ There are no testing or evaluation mechanisms to determine success or failures.
- ☑ There is no record system or proper accountability for future reference.
- ☑ Opposition to the operation of the gifts of the Spirit.
- ☑ Carnality and sin on the increase.
- ☑ No anointing in worship services.
- ☑ Non-spiritual and non-visionary leaders.