

What is a healthy church member?

Chapter 1 A Healthy Church Member Is An Expository Listener

What is expository listening?

Expositional listening is listening for the meaning of a passage of Scripture and accepting that meaning as the main idea to be grasped for our personal and corporate lives as Christians.

1. The benefits of expository listening:
 - a. Cultivating a hunger for God's Word
 - b. Helps us to focus on God's will and to follow Him
 - c. Protects the gospel and our lives from corruption
 - d. Encourages faithful pastors/teachers
 - e. It benefits the gathered congregation by promoting unity
2. How we can cultivate the practice of expository listening?
 - a. Meditate on the sermon passage in advance
 - b. Invest in and use a commentary to help you study the passage
 - c. Talk to and pray with friends about the sermon
 - d. Listen to and act on the sermon throughout the week
 - e. Address any questions regarding the text or the sermon
 - f. Cultivate humility in your listening and studying
3. How do you plan to strengthen your listening ability?

Chapter 2 A Healthy Church Member Is A Biblical Theologian

What is biblical theology?

God's self revelation of Himself and His plan for all of creation in the Bible, including the history of revelation, the grand themes and doctrines of the Bible and how they fit together.

1. How does biblical theology work to promote health in a church member?
 - a. It helps us to grow in our reverence for God
 - b. It helps us to overcome wrong ideas about God and His ways
 - c. It helps to inoculate the church against doctrinal controversies
 - d. It's practice is necessary to fulfilling the great commission
 - e. It deepens our understanding of and facility with the gospel
2. How to become a biblical theologian:
 - a. Read a good book on biblical theology
 - b. Study the Scriptures thematically
 - c. Understand and adopt the New Testament's attitude towards the O.T.
 - d. Study the Old Testament with Jesus and the N.T. in view
 - e. Study the books of prophecy in the Old Testament
 - f. Know and agree to support your church's statement of faith
 - g. Seek for doctrinal unity and avoid needless disputes
3. What can you do to strengthen your knowledge of biblical theology?