

Table of Contents

Preface: A Parable 9

Introduction: What Are You Looking for in a Church? 13

Part 1. What Is a Healthy Church?

1. Your Christianity and Your Church 21

2. What a Church Is... and Isn't 33

3. What Every Church Should Aspire to Be: Healthy 39

4. The Ultimate How-to Guide: How to Display God's Character 49

Part 2. Essential Marks of a Healthy Church

5. Expository Preaching 63

6. Biblical Theology 69

7. A Biblical Understanding of the Good News 75

Part 3. Important Marks of a Healthy Church

8. A Biblical Understanding of Conversion 85

9. A Biblical Understanding of Evangelism 89

10. A Biblical Understanding of Membership 93

11. Biblical Church Discipline 101

12. Biblical Discipleship and Growth 107

13. Biblical Church Leadership 113

14. Conclusion: Where the Rubber Meets the Road 119

Appendix: A Typical Covenant of a Healthy Church 123

Special Thanks 125