

Small Group Discussion 9/12/2021

Characteristics of a Healthy Church

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Getting Started

- Share a time when you learned a spiritual lesson from someone else's example.

Static Questions

- **WHAT IS THE PASSAGE ABOUT?**
 - Note the key details (Who, What, When, Where, Why, etc.)
 - Pay attention to the main Facts of the passage.
- **WHAT DID YOU LEARN?**
 - What does the passage reveal about God? About people?
 - Is there a promise or a command or a warning?
 - What is the main truth of the passage?
 - What lessons do you see?
- **HOW WILL YOU APPLY IT?**
 - How does this passage relate to your life right now?
 - What change in your thinking or behavior is needed to align with the truths in this passage?
 - How should you respond based on what you learned?

Discussion

- Which of the healthy church characteristics stands out to you as being evident at Redeemer Bible Church?
- Which characteristic do you think needs to be strengthened in our church?
- Direction of influence prompting change for the better.
Sometimes change starts from the top down. Eg., King Hezekiah stimulated revival among the people. Nehemiah stimulated the people to rebuild the walls.
Sometime change starts from the bottom up. Eg., when Jonah preached at Nineveh, the citizens repented, influencing the King to declare an official season of fasting and repenting. The Thessalonian believers not only stimulated one another, they influenced believers in Macedonia and Achaia.
Is either "direction of influence" more desirable than the other?
What do you think is the key to either method becoming effective in bringing about positive change?