

Lesson 7

Discovering a Healthy Vision for the Church

- **What is a Healthy Vision for a Church?**

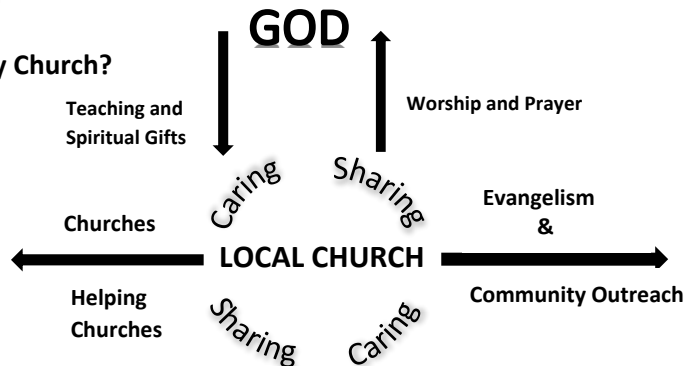
- A buffet of ministries.
 - Why is this necessary?
 - So everyone can recognize that they are included in the vision.

- **How should a church approach this objective?**

- Pastors with leaders?
 - Develop the scriptural view of the members as ordained to be fruitful (Jn. 15:16) and gifted to complement each other as “many members but one body” with Christ the head.
- Leaders with the church?
 - Communicate the Lord’s long-term vision for the church. Be sure they see that they are included.
 - Acknowledge the difference between that vision and the present realities.
 - Ask for their help in prayer for the leaders to be good stewards of the present resources so the vision becomes a reality and to inform the leaders of the kind of involvement that would appeal to them.

- **What are the Basic Functions of a Healthy Church?**

- Worship and Prayer
- Teaching and Spiritual Gifts
- Churches Helping Churches
- Evangelism, Discipleship, and Community Outreach



- **Who empowers the church?**
 - The Lord
- **Who is the responder?**
 - The church
- **How does the church respond?**
 - Worship – prayer – caring and sharing fellowship – help to other parts of the body – evangelism to the lost and outreach to the needy.
- **What is the difference between basic functions and a program?**
 - Programs are limited expressions of one or more basic functions.
- **Why is it essential for leaders to keep leadership decisions distinct from personal preferences?**
 - Leadership decisions are for the benefit of the members.
 - Personal preferences relate to their own involvement.