



Built on the Rock: The Healthy Congregation A Webinar Bible Study Handout for Lesson 1



Use this handout to prepare for discussion questions. You'll answer them in the chat box, in small group breakout rooms, or in a poll. This handout also prepares you for looking up a few Bible passages.

A Bride Like No Other: Introductory thoughts

Answer in the chat box: What is most common among highly conflicted churches?

Answer in the poll...

Take your congregation's average worship attendance.

Divide it by the total number of adults that regularly attend Bible study.

What is the percentage?

1. Less than 10%
2. 10% to 19%
3. 20% to 40%
4. More than 40%
5. I have no clue...

What if we considered the Holy Scriptures?

[Jesus said,] "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."

Matthew 7:24-27

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

[Jesus said,] I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:5

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Colossians 3:16

Breakout room discussion

Discuss these questions in the small group breakout room:

1. Briefly introduce yourself and where you are from.
2. What do these passages suggest to you about the spiritual health of an individual?
3. How do these same passages relate to the spiritual health of the church?



You'll have 5 minutes for this exercise.

Examining healthy congregations

Answer in the chat box: What do you think was not common among the healthy churches interviewed?

Answer in the poll...

What percentage of your elected lay leaders regularly attend Bible study?

1. Less than 33%
2. 33% to 50%
3. 51% to 80%
4. More than 80%
5. I don't know

Breakout room discussion

Discuss this question in the small group breakout room:

Before today... Which church activity or personal spiritual practice would you have thought is most influential in helping people mature in their faith?



You'll have 5 minutes for this exercise.

Assignment for Next Week

1. Read chapters 1 & 2 from *Built on the Rock*.
2. What surprises you most from these chapters?
3. What are you learning about the health of your congregation?
4. If you could change anything in your church, what would it be?

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