



We understand there are at least 8 quality characteristics in being a healthy church.

1. Empowering Leadership.

The role of our leadership is to help equip, support, motivate and mentor the members of our congregation, so they are able to serve both the church and the community as they are led by the Holy Spirit.

2. Gift Based Ministry

Members are encouraged to identify their gifts and engage in ministries that match these. As believers who live in harmony with their spiritual gifting, they are no longer ministering in our own strength, but the Holy Spirit is working in and through them. This important factor influences the sense of joy there is in living the Christian life. As a result, Christians are happier and more effective, as well as being better understood by other Christians around them.

3. Passionate Spirituality.

Research indicates that the important thing is not a church's style, but the degree to which the faith of the members is actually lived out with commitment, passion and enthusiasm. This passion is based on the Word, directed by the Spirit, and focused on the world.

4. Effective Structures

We are committed to ensuring that our church structures fulfil their purpose and are effective in helping to achieve our goals. If they don't, they are either changed or 'laid to rest.' To this end, regular reviews are undertaken, and new processes contemplated.

5. Inspiring Worship Service

For those who attend a worship service, the key issue is how inspiring the experience is. In a recent survey, members rated this aspect of a healthy church as our most valued characteristic.

6. Holistic Small Groups

We have developed a ministry network of *connect groups* where individual believers can find more intimate community, practical help and meaningful spiritual interaction. These are not just a nice hobby. They are the very essence of the true life of the Church of Jesus Christ, being worked out in and through the participants' positive involvement.

7. Need Oriented Evangelism

We actively encourage each other to share the gospel with other people to grow the body of Christ. This is generally referred to as 'evangelism'. Rather than doing this in a 'pushy' way, we encourage one another to do so in a manner that meets the questions and needs of non-Christians by praying, caring and then sharing.

8. Loving Relationships

Members are encouraged to regularly affirm one another; being aware of each other's challenges so we can weep, pray and laugh together. In this way, the church family is endowed with unfeigned practical love which creates great magnetic power.