

7 Things Every Church Must Do

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2 Corinthians 11:23a-28

...in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. ²⁴ Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. ²⁵ Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; ²⁶ In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; ²⁷ In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. ²⁸ Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.

1. Every church must give the gospel.

Acts 14:21

And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch,

2. Every church must strengthen disciples.

Acts 14:22

Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

2 Corinthians 12:10

Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

3. Every church must train leaders.

Acts 14:23a

And when they had ordained them elders...

We must be intentional about training leaders.

4. Every church must be organized.

Acts 14:23b

...in every church,...

The local church is both an organism and an organization. An organism without organization will not survive.

5. Every church must spend time in prayer and fasting.

Acts 14:23c

...and had prayed with fasting,...

Mark 1:35

And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he [Jesus] went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.

6. Every church must commit the believers to the Lord.

Acts 14:23d

...they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

7. Every church must give an account.

Acts 14:26-28

And thence sailed to Antioch, from whence they had been recommended to the grace of God for the work which they fulfilled. ²⁷ And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles. ²⁸ And there they abode long time with the disciples.