

# Marks Of An Effective Church

(Ephesians 1:22-23)

- Introduction:
1. If the church of Christ is ineffective, Christ will be denied the glory that belongs to Him and souls will be denied their heavenly home.
  2. Some churches seem more interested in maintaining their comfort zones than in raiding Satan's camp and freeing his captives.
  3. Too much is at stake for us not to be effective, but what makes an effective church?

## I. Christ Centered

- A. (Galatians 2:20).
- B. Jesus is our Savior and only hope.
- C. Jesus is the good news of the gospel.

## II. Bound By Scripture

- A. (John 12:48).
- B. (1 Corinthians 4:6).
- C. (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

## III. Respects Diversity In Matters Of Option

- A. (Romans 14:1 - 15:13).
- B. (Psalm 133:1).
- C. Distinction and discrimination must be made concerning types of error.
  1. Errors that deter one from faithfully serving God.
  2. Errors that do not deter one from faithfully serving God.

## IV. Visionary Leadership

- A. Leadership in the church is not equivalent to what the world sees as leadership.
- B. (Matthew 20:28).
- C. Styles of leadership contrasted.
  1. Engagement -vs- Detachment.
  2. Mission -vs- Maintenance.
  3. Thermostats -vs- Thermometers.

## V. Lives Are Changed

- A. The church is more like an Emergency room rather than a sterile laboratory.
- B. (James 5:16).
- C. (Matthew 7:1-5).
- D. (2 Corinthians 5:18-19).

- Conclusion:
1. Effectiveness in a church has little to do with size, gender, race, wealth, education, but in its commitment to Jesus.
  2. Let's be sure we lift up Christ in our personal lives; lift him up corporately in the church, and we will make a difference in our community.