

# WHAT IS A HEALTHY CHURCH MEMBER?

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**THIS BOOK ANSWERS THE QUESTION: “HOW WILL YOU BECOME A BETTER MEMBER AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE HEALTH OF GOD’S FAMILY IN THIS PLACE (THE LOCAL CHURCH)?” “THE HEALTH OF THE LOCAL CHURCH DEPENDS UPON THE WILLINGNESS OF ITS MEMBERS TO INSPECT THEIR HEARTS, CORRECT THEIR THINKING, AND APPLY THEIR HANDS TO THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY” (PAGE 15).**

## Community Group Questions

**LEADERSHIP TIPS** (From a training session at Sov Grace Fairfax, VA)

### Five Pointers on Using the Take It Home Questions:

1. You’ll always have twice as many Take it Home questions as you will need for your group. Choose ones that might be most helpful for your group.
2. Don’t focus on answering all the questions, use the questions to get into personal application.
3. Take some time to read the passage and remind the folks of the main points and key ideas, but keep this as brief as possible. Don’t re-preach the message.
4. Come with a back-up plan. If you’re not getting a lift from the Take it Home questions, have a question relevant to what’s going on with the folks in the group.
5. Try to engage folks in responding *to each other*, so you don’t become the ‘answer person’.

### Leaders remember our monthly goals

1. Prayer- around gospel encounters, pains in the group, praises of our great God.
2. Encourage intentional living (gospeling in the everyday)
3. Verbally inform about church life- announcements (or prayer about - facility, prayer regarding pressing issues in your group or in the church- see point one)
4. Apply the word
  - a. Scripture memory- *Philippians 4:10-11*
  - b. sermon application
  - c. Putting off the old self and putting on Christ
    - i. confession leading to repentance through

- ii. accountability- we want people to be suspicious of their own hearts and learn to apply the gospel with adults and children.
5. Joy in all you do ☺

## CHAPTERS 1 & 2

Seek to apply some of the following questions:

1. Talk about interesting parts from Chapters 1 & 2. Share one idea God used to convict or comfort your heart.
2. Expository Listening was defined as: “Listening for the meaning of a passage of Scripture and accepting that meaning as the main idea to be grasped for our personal and corporate lives as Christians” (page 20). Of the following 3 benefits of expository listening, which do you feel the greatest need for right now and why? #1) It helps cultivate in us a hunger for God’s Word. #2) It helps us focus on God’s will and follow Him. #3) It helps to protect the Gospel and our lives from corruption.
3. Which of the steps in the chapter will you pursue in order to become a better listener? (Ex: meditate on the sermon passage in quiet times, buy commentaries to read, talk about the sermon w/ friends over lunch, think about the sermon throughout the week, study questions from the sermon passage for yourself.)
4. According to the author, growing in biblical theology is growing in one’s understanding of what God says about Himself in the Bible, including the Bible’s grand themes, doctrines, and how they fit together. In Chapter 2, the author offers five benefits of growing in and practicing biblical theology: It helps us grown in reverence to God, it helps us overcome wrong ideas, it helps guard the church from doctrinal controversies, it’s necessary to fulfilling the Great Commission, and it deepens our understanding of the Gospel. How has growing in your understanding of biblical theology helped you in your love for God?
5. Which of the methods to become a better biblical theologian will you seek to employ in order to know and love God more? (Examples from the chapter: Read a book on biblical theology, study the Scriptures thematically, know and support your church’s statement of faith, etc.)

6. PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE GOAL IS TO KNOW AND LOVE JESUS MORE. In your groups, please seek to avoid heady discussions about theology that divert from the goal of encouraging people's hearts in the Gospel. (Ex: Debating which theology book is better and why- While in general that discussion is fine, the goal in small group regarding biblical theology is to help encourage all members to grow in their understanding of the Bible, so they grow in knowing and loving God).