

**Introduction** \_\_\_\_\_

## **I. REVIEW OF OUR IDENTITY AS A CHURCH**

We are a New Testament church - following only the New Testament teachings \_\_\_\_\_

1. Why be a New Testament church? \_\_\_\_\_

A. Jesus commanded it \_\_\_\_\_

B. To oppose departures from the pattern \_\_\_\_\_

- Matthew 28:19-20 \_\_\_\_\_

- II Timothy 1:13 \_\_\_\_\_

- Acts 2:42 \_\_\_\_\_

## **II. THE GROWTH BUG**

Common mistake #1: Making growth the objective \_\_\_\_\_

Common mistake #2: Using unbiblical methods for growth \_\_\_\_\_

Growth is a byproduct, not the goal of the church

Size leads to pride or despair if made the goal \_\_\_\_\_

**III. LOVE AS THE CHURCH'S OBJECTIVE**

- Ephesians 1:3-6 \_\_\_\_\_

- John 13:35 \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 Corinthians 13:1-8 \_\_\_\_\_

**IV. PRACTICAL APPLICATION AND NEXT STEPS**

We create the environment for growth; love is the air the church breathes \_\_\_\_\_

Have I allowed God's love into my life? \_\_\_\_\_

Am I making love my objective as a Christian? \_\_\_\_\_