

Text: Revelation 3:14–22

“And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; 15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. 16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. 17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: 18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. 19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. 20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. 21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. 22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.” (Revelation 3:14–22)

INTRODUCTION

Quote: “The reward of ministry isn’t appreciation from the congregation, as welcome as that is, or even the numerical growth of the congregation. The real reward is the spiritual growth that makes us better servants.”

Quote: “The people’s rights were preeminent, in this the first ‘seeker sensitive church.’”

Quote: “The purest of all apostolic churches was that of the Thessalonians and this was formed after the churches of Judea. Had any preeminence or authority belonged to the church of Rome, the apostle would have proposed this as a model to all those which he formed, either in Judea, Asia Minor, Greece or Italy.”
—**David Otis Fuller**, *Which Bible?*

1. _____ OF A HEALTHY CHURCH

A. Aware of _____

“Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.” (Acts 20:28)

B. Led by the _____

Quote: “Other qualities are important; to be spirit filled is indispensable.”—**J. Oswald Sanders**, *Spiritual Leadership*

“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.” (Romans 8:14)

Quote: “Without the Spirit of God, we can do nothing. We are as ships without the wind, branches without sap, and like coals without fire, we are useless.”—**Charles Spurgeon**

Quote: “Driven living makes us the center of our well-planned schedules. It may stem from a passion to live with eternal purpose, but it signifies that we believe God’s work depends on us and neglects to acknowledge that God created us as finite resources dependent upon Him.”

—**Paul Chappell**, *Stewarding Life*

C. Rightly _____ the Word

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” (2 Timothy 2:15)

D. A Spiritually _____ Pastor and Staff

Quote: “The under-shepherd’s love for the Chief Shepherd is the most important part of ministry.”

Quote: “The acquisition, maintenance, and siphoning off of spiritual energy is the chief concern of pastors who want to stay vital. The long-range result of running on empty is horrific: becoming bitter-spirited, reduced to going through the motions; falling into ministry-destroying sin; losing intimacy with God and spouses and friends; and (if nothing else) hating our work.”—**Gordon MacDonald**, *Building below the Waterline*

Quote: “We have neglected the fact that a pastor’s greatest leadership tool is a healthy soul.”—**Lance Witt**, *Replenish*

E. Intentional _____

“Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”
(2 Timothy 2:1-2)

BIBLICALLY

RELATIONALLY

F. _____ to the Word

“Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot. 30 And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest?” (Acts 8:29-30)

G. Intensely Loving and _____ Spirit

BETWEEN MEMBERS AND PASTOR

“Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. 29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. 31 Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.” (Acts 20:28-31)

BETWEEN MEMBERS

Quote: “Work harder at maintaining relationship in the church than at solving problems in the church...”

“Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.” (Philippians 2:3)

H. Confronting _____

“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.” (Galatians 6:1)

I. A Spirit of _____

“But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.” (James 4:6)

“He must increase, but I must decrease.” (John 3:30)

Quote: “I’ve never met a contentious servant.”

Quote: “A carnal servant takes a little matter and makes it bigger. A spiritual servant takes a big matter and makes it smaller.”

J. Approachable _____

“Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. 10 Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;” (Romans 12:9–10)

K. Burden for _____

“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.” (Romans 10:1)

LOCALLY

INTERNATIONALLY

L. Generosity with _____

“Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia; 2 How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality. 3 For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves; 4 Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.” (2 Corinthians 8:1-4)

M. Spirit to _____

“Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. 4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.” (Philippians 2:3-4)

2. _____ OF A HEALTHY CHURCH

A. The _____ of God

Quote: “Pastoral ministry is always shaped by a war between the kingdom of self and the kingdom of God, which is fought on the field of your heart.”—**Ted Tripp**

B. The _____ of God

“Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears. 32 And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.” (Acts 20:31-32)

C. The _____ of God

“Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;” (1 Peter 5:2)

D. The _____ of Christ

“For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: 15 And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.” (2 Corinthians 5:14–15)

E. The _____ of God

“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.” (1 Corinthians 10:31)

Quote: “We must make God, not growth, our goal.”

F. A Lost _____

“Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.” (John 4:35)

G. The _____ Following Us

“That this may be a sign among you, that when your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean ye by these stones?” (Joshua 4:6)

3. _____ OF CHURCH GROWTH

A. Is the Work of _____

“Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.” (Acts 2:47)

B. Is the Work of God’s _____

“And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.” (Acts 6:7)

C. Is the Work of God’s _____

D. Is the Work of God’s _____

HIS OVERSIGHT

“Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, And look well to thy herds.” (Proverbs 27:23)

“Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.” (Acts 20:28)

4 PASTORAL PRACTICES

1. Practice MBWA
2. Write Down Needs
3. Try Not to Be Guilty of Not Noticing
4. Hospitality
5. Through Reporting Systems

“For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee.” (Titus 1:5)

Quote: “Process is vital. You can have the right vision or idea. You can even have the right result. But if you process it wrong you will have disaster.”

HIS STEWARDSHIP

HIS DISCERNMENT

Quote: “Blind sighted leaders get blind sided.”

E. Is the Work of God’s _____

Quote: “Ministry is the process of motivating, mobilizing, resourcing, and directing people to passionately and strategically pursue God and His plan for their lives.”

Quote: “We need to be reminded that Jesus said, “Go Ye,’ not ‘Go Y’all.”

“Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.” (Philippians 4:9)

INSPIRE

INCLUDE

INSTRUCT

INVOLVE

IMPACT

“And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” (Matthew 28:17-20)

Quote: “The only alternative to soul winning is disobedience.”—**Curtis Hutson**

STEWARDSHIP OF GUESTS

1. Collect All Visitor Cards
2. Create A Master Sheet
3. Mail To All Guests – Include Starbucks Gift Card
4. Email All Guests – Include Survey
5. Visits Distributed by Life Stage Connection Group
6. Create Friday Report for Pastor
7. Quarterly Assimilation Events
8. CORE

CONCLUSION

Guest Email Survey

My name is Paul Chappell, and I serve as the pastor here at Lancaster Baptist. I don't know if we were able to meet in person on Sunday, but I heard that you attended Lancaster Baptist, and I wanted to say hello. I hope you enjoyed your time with us!

This Sunday, some of the pastors will be in the lobby after the service. It would be great if you could stop by and say hello (nothing awkward—but it's always nice to put a face with the name). Hopefully we'll see you there!

I'll be praying for you this week. Please let me know if there is anything we can do for you.

Your friend,
Pastor Paul Chappell

P.S. We have a staff meeting scheduled this week to evaluate our Sunday service so that we can try to make the experience better for you and everyone who attends. Something you could do to help me would be to complete a very short online survey (it will take about 30 seconds) at lanasterbaptist.org/firsttime-guest-survey

Link goes to a web page that asks these questions:

- What did you notice first?
- What did you like best?
- What was your overall impression?
- How can we pray for you?

Your Name

Your Email

Assimilation Report

Date Visited	Assigned To	Name	Saved	Bapt	Entr	Contact Log	Address	City	Prospect Status	Marital Stat.
08/26/2025	Alan Simpson	Carol Martin				6/2/19 other; 5/26/19 other; 5/19/19 other; 5/12/19 other; 5/5/19 other; 4/28/19 other; 4/21/19 other; 4/13/19 other	43619 Stanridge	Lancaster	Active	Single
08/26/2025	Beth Reynolds	Aaron Watson				Was able to connect. Won't be in town this weekend. Didn't give me an address. Hoping to connect with them.		Lancaster	Active	Married
08/26/2025	Courtney Peters	Derek Wells				4/16/19 note: Texted an invitation to the Saturday service and fellowship. 4/9/19 note: Sent Davon a note inviting him to the Bridge class. 4/1/19 email: Emailed Davon an invitation to the Jeff...	3059 San Luis Dr	Lancaster	Active	Single
08/26/2025	Tonya Wells	Melissa Novak				5/16/19 visit: They are involved in a non-denominational church and play music there on Sundays. That is why they attended the Saturday service on Easter. We confirmed Easter.	39243 Rowan Ct	Palmdale	Active	
08/26/2025	Victor Chapman	Jerry Dawson				10/5/18 email: Sent her an email encouraging her to come to Open House. Did not receive a response. 8/31/18 email: Sent her an email this morning. No response.		Lancaster	Active	Single
08/26/2025	Stephanie Sandoval	Miguel Chen	X	X	X	Her 2nd baptism: Counseled by the Ruhls 10/21/18 class; 10/20/18 visit: Good visit. Should be getting baptized tomorrow. 10/14/18 attendance: Added child to Kid City 10/13 visit: Amazing visit! The F...	9044 E Ave T-6	Littlerock	Added to the church	Married
08/26/2025	Lisa Eaton	Colin Prince				11/10/18 call: Left a message. 10/27/18 call: Was in a severe accident, lost father and nephew and is trying to recover. Please contact her. She is planning on attending 1st or 2nd Sunday in November...	2311 Old Harold Rd #0269	Palmdale	Active	Married
06/10/2025	Gary Turner	Christopher Mendoza				6/2/19 other; 5/26/19 other; 5/19/19 other; 5/12/19 other; 5/5/19 other; 4/28/19 other; 4/21/19 other; 4/13/19 other	630 E Ave J-9	Lancaster	Active	

