

Homework Questions from:
The Gospel-Centered Community (Gospel Overview & Lesson 1) &
Nine Marks of a Healthy Church (Introduction and Mark One)

From *Gospel-Centered Community*:

- i. From Gospel Overview. The authors state that the gospel is a “true Story that speaks to our purest aspiration and deepest longings.” How would you explain the Gospel story in your own words?
- ii. From Lesson 1. In the section “The Fall: Broken Community,” the article says, “There’s something selfish and self-absorbed about us that [hinders community].” How do you see this in your own life?
- iii. From Lesson 1. The article concludes by talking about community as the context for transformation. How do you feel about being part of a community that knows your flaws and failures? What’s exciting about that, and what’s scary about that?
- iv. From Lesson 1: Exercise. How would you answer the question at the end: “If your self-centeredness were turned into a joyful God-centeredness, what would be the results for yourself and for the community around you?”

From *Nine Marks of a Healthy Church*:

- i. From pages 30-32. According to Dever, how should “successful ministry” be defined? How does this differ from the liberal, seeker-sensitive, and traditional models he describes?
- ii. From pages 42-43. Why does Dever believe that expositional preaching is the most important mark of a church?
- iii. From page 49. According to Dever, why is the word of God central in creating faith?
- iv. On page 58, Dever states that “If you are looking for a good church, the role of the preacher of God’s Word is the most important thing to consider.” What reasons does he give for that statement?