



CHURCH HEALTH INVENTORY

The following inventory is designed to provide a guide to discover the level of readiness of a church to move to a greater level of health. We use this instrument in our consultations with churches. The key is to provide your best answer with total candor and honesty. Many churches may want to have several of their leaders or members take the inventory to see if the people are thinking similarly. Take your time. Read each statement carefully.

INSTRUCTIONS:

For each statement circle the number that best describes the church and issues related to the church. Give your best response to each statement as follows:



STRONGLY
DISAGREE



DISAGREE



UNCERTAIN



AGREE



STRONGLY
AGREE



1. The attendance of the church is on a positive trend.

1

2

3

4

5

2. The pastor of the church is a strong and biblical pulpit communicator/preacher who has a high view of Scripture.

1

2

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3. Prayer has a high priority in the ministries of the church.

1

2

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4. The church clearly and accurately reports numerous statistics regularly.

1

2

3

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5. Most of the people in the church know the church's doctrinal positions.

1

2

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6. Members in the church are willing to start new groups and classes to reach people.

1

2

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7. The pastor is willing to lead the church in needed changes even if the attempted changes result in significant opposition.

1

2

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8. The church examines the newest and latest methodologies carefully before considering adopting them.

1

2

3

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5



9. The pastor of this church is humble, gracious, and modest.

1 2 3 4 5

10. The pastor of this church is certain of God's call to ministry.

1 2 3 4 5

11. The church is keenly aware of its weaknesses, challenges, and needs.

1 2 3 4 5

12. The church is willing to confront the difficult issues and seek remedies.

1 2 3 4 5

13. The pastor leads the church to be outwardly focused—to seek, to serve, and to minister to those who are not in the church.

1 2 3 4 5

14. Among the leadership of the church, there is a keen desire to improve and better one's self.

1 2 3 4 5

15. The church often takes major steps of faith.

1 2 3 4 5

16. The staff of the church is passionate about ministry, the church, and serving God.

1 2 3 4 5



17. The leaders of the church often attend conferences, read books, and seek outside consultations.

1 2 3 4 5

18. The church is willing to see the negative issues it faces with a great belief that God will see them through any difficulty.

1 2 3 4 5

19. The leadership of the church often mentions and thinks about what the church will be like in another generation, even after the pastor's own lifetime.

1 2 3 4 5

20. The leadership of the church will accept slow progress as long as progress is being made.

1 2 3 4 5

21. The pastor obviously loves the church, as evidenced in the pastor's words, attitude, and actions.

1 2 3 4 5

22. The pastor does not attempt to lead as a dictator.

1 2 3 4 5

23. The pastor is committed to stay at the church for the long term.

1 2 3 4 5

24. The staff is persistent in leading the church.

1 2 3 4 5



25. This church tends to attract gifted and highly competent people to serve as pastor and staff.

1 2 3 4 5

26. The church is willing to tackle major projects, even if they are difficult.

1 2 3 4 5

27. The organizational structure of this church is healthy.

1 2 3 4 5

28. The physical facilities and grounds of the church are in very good condition and are cared for well.

1 2 3 4 5

29. If a new staff member is needed, the church is willing to wait a long time for the right person to hire or call.

1 2 3 4 5

30. The church is willing to deal with problem staff members quickly, even if the result is dismissal of the staff person.

1 2 3 4 5

31. The church is compassionate but firm in dealing with problem staff members.

1 2 3 4 5

32. The church leadership communicates well on issues, particularly on personnel issues.

1 2 3 4 5



33. The staff members and/or lay leaders are very compatible.

1 2 3 4 5

34. The leadership of the church (elders, personnel, deacons, etc.) does not attempt to micromanage the staff.

1 2 3 4 5

35. The staff and/or lay leaders are given great freedom to lead and carry out their ministries.

1 2 3 4 5

36. A climate of trust is evident in the church.

1 2 3 4 5

37. The church members know the purposes of the church.

1 2 3 4 5

38. The church uses its buildings wisely.

1 2 3 4 5

39. Small groups and/or Sunday school classes have a high priority at the church.

1 2 3 4 5

40. This church is a fun place to work or serve.

1 2 3 4 5

41. This church understands clearly its vision—the specific plan that God has given it.

1 2 3 4 5



42. Most of the members of the congregation know and use their spiritual gifts in ministry.

1 2 3 4 5

43. This church makes a concerted effort to minister to needs in the community.

1 2 3 4 5

44. This church chooses a few areas in which to excel.

1 2 3 4 5

45. This church attempts to do most everything with excellence.

1 2 3 4 5

46. This church expects much of its members.

1 2 3 4 5

47. This church is willing to eliminate ministries and activities if they cannot be done with excellence.

1 2 3 4 5

48. This church is willing to build quickly if the ministries and growth demand it.

1 2 3 4 5

49. Innovation is a means, not an end, at this church.

1 2 3 4 5

50. The leaders of the church use each success that God gives as a beginning point for another opportunity for success.

1 2 3 4 5



TOTAL:

Add the points from all the statements and put the total here.

SEE WHERE YOUR SCORE FALLS IN THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTIONS:

240 TO 250:

The church is displaying clear signs of moving toward great health. We estimate that less than 1 percent of churches will score this high. A church in this category should keep doing what it is presently doing.

200 TO 239:

The church has significant potential to move to the healthiest level. Leadership should look at those statements that did not score a 5 and see what remedies are possible to move to a higher level.

175 TO 199:

A church at this level needs significant work to move into the healthy category. So many deficiencies exist that multiple remedies are needed. Though the church should seek to move all statements to a score of 5, it particularly needs to give attention to those statements that were scored 3 or less.

50 TO 174:

Any church that has a score this low is very unhealthy. The possibility of moving to health, outside of miraculous intervention, is remote. The church should begin focusing on the many statements where a score of less than 4 was assigned. Though nothing is impossible with God, we rarely see churches in this category have any significant growth or meaningful ministries.

