

Leading The Church Forward

Study Questions for the Week Two

The Congregation and the Keys

Acts 2:42-47, Gal 1:1-10, Matt 18:15-20

1. Pastor Paul taught congregational churches are ultimately under the authority of Jesus. He cautioned us that, since there is no external human hierarchy overseeing Northwest Baptist, the church has the potential, if we lose touch with Jesus, to go WAY wrong. What can individual members do if they believe the church is drifting from sound doctrine?
2. In Acts 2:42-45, we read of a congregation engaged in devotional acts, prayer, the study of doctrine, and assisting needy members. Do you see this mix of activities at Northwest Baptist?
3. While discussing the role of the congregation in church governance, Pastor Paul quoted from Matthew 16:17-19. Some people use this passage to support the teaching that the “rock” of verse 18 is Peter, whom Jesus was appointing as Pope. Further, these people believe that in verse 19, Jesus was giving Pope Peter the authority to forgive sins (“loose” or “bind”). State whether you agree or disagree and support your answer with scripture.
4. Pastor Paul emphasized that the congregation can discern false gospels only in they understand the true gospel. In your personal experience, what elements of the true gospel do false preachers usually contradict?

