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<u>WOW – Word on Wednesday</u> SERIES: A PURPOSE DRIVEN CHURCH Lesson #2 – Seven Pillars

<u>Intro</u>: The Church is the bride of Christ. As disciples of Jesus, we gather together to celebrate our risen Savior, but to also learn and grow together. We do this so we can go out and share the Gospel with those who are unsaved. God intends for the Church to be more than a charitable organization – we must be distinct from the world! This series will focus on the foundation of God's Church – a Purpose Driven Church! Tonight, we will continue our lesson on Seven Pillars of the Church.

I. Pillar #4 – A Laboring Member

a. We're all part of the workforce of the Church.

b. Our work is part of our witness.
c. Our work is essential to everyone.
d. Our labor is not in vain.
e. Our work is urgent.
f. Our labor carries on the works of charity.

Colossians 3:23
Philippians 2:12
Corinthians 15:58
John 9:4
Galatians 6:10

The pillar of the Church is a laboring membership that seeks to carry on the Lord's mission.

II. Pillar #5 – A Growing Member & Membership

a. A congregation should always be looking ahead and have a vision to look ahead. Proverbs 29:18

b. This is a two-fold process: we must grow individually and collectively.

c. Know where you are growing spiritually, mentally, financially.
d. Know where you are <u>not</u> growing: lazy, lethargic, burnout, wipe-out.
e. Know where the Church is going: forward, backwards, or stuck in the middle.
Proverbs 13:4
Philippians 3:13-14

III. Pillar #6 – A Disciplined Member – The Church must be subject to rule and order. 1 Corinthians 14:40

a. We must all be walking by the same rule.
b. We must all withdraw from the disorderly.
Philippians 3:16
2 Thessalonians 3:6

c. There are two purposes for this:

To motivate them toward repentance.
 To protect the Church from evil influence.
 I John 1:9
 Psalm 92:11

IV. Pillar #7 – A Worshipful Member

a. Pure and sincere worship must be in Spirit and in truth.
b. The right attitude of praise.
c. The heart of thanksgiving.
d. Continuing steadfastly in His Word, will, and way.
John 4:24
Psalm 33:1
Psalm 69:30
Acts 2:42

e. We assemble, not out of habit, but because we desire to worship Him sincerely from the heart.

~If you take away any pillar of the Church, it will lean and eventually fall!~