# The Need for Church Makeovers

# The Church

Now he is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else not only in this world but also in the world to come. God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church. Ephesians 1:21-22 (NLT)

#### You Are the Church

You are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light. "Once you had no identity as a people; now you are God's people. Once you received no mercy; now you have received God's mercy." 1 Peter 2:9-10 (NLT)

## Christ and the Church

Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word. He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault. Ephesians 5:25-27 (NLT)

#### Christ and Problems in the Church

But I have this complaint against you. You don't love me or each other as you did at first! Look how far you have fallen! Turn back to me and do the works you did at first. If you don't repent, I will come and remove your lampstand from its place among the churches. Revelation 2:4-5 (NLT)

#### Leadership Problems in the Church

I have not sent these prophets, yet they run around claiming to speak for me. I have given them no message, yet they go on prophesying. If they had stood before me and listened to me, they would have spoken my words, and they would have turned my people from their evil ways and deeds. Jeremiah 23:21-22 (NLT)

# Doing God's Will in the Church

So do not throw away this confident trust in the Lord. Remember the great reward it brings you!

Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God's will. Then you will receive all that he has promised. Hebrews 10:35-36 (NLT)

# Listening to the Spirit for the Church

Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches. To everyone who is victorious I will give fruit from the tree of life in the paradise of God. Revelation 2:7 (NLT)

#### Makeover Applications

- Love the Lord
- Glorify the Lord
- Embrace your place in the Lord
- Esteem His Church
- Evaluate the Church the Lord's way
- Listen to the Spirit and Spirit led leaders