



Open Arms Evangelistic Ministries



Reaching the World Through the Gospel of Jesus Christ

## *The Successful Church*

**There is a foundation for a successful church. The number one way to succeed in anything is to do it the Bible way. The Word of God is intended to direct and correct us. The Word will bless us for obeying it or curse us for disobeying it. The Word deals with our relationship to God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and others. It deals with our marriage, children, job, co-workers, neighbors, health, finances, morals, standards, attitude, and everything that affects our lives.**

**John 13: 34-35 says, “A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.” Where love rules, bitterness cannot live. Where love rules, gossip and backbiting are silenced. When we love one another as Jesus instructed, we will protect each other instead of hurt each other. Love builds up instead of tearing down. Any church not built on love is a church doomed to fail.**

**For a church to be successful, its leadership **MUST** be respected, trusted, and followed. Psalm 133:1 says, “Behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.” We must respect one another but, more importantly, we must respect the offices God has set up and ordained. Leaders are not perfect, but they are called by God. You are not respecting the person as much as you are the office. Many people are cursed today for coming against God’s anointed. If you disagree with your leader, then do what the Bible says – go to them and work it out. Keep them before the Lord, and He will correct them, you, or both.**

**Where God is allowed to fully dwell there will be unity and peace. We must offer the world something they cannot get outside the Body of Christ (the Church). Everyone wants to be loved. Most everyone wants to be a part of something bigger than themselves; and most people want peace in their lives and joy in their hearts. Where can such things be found? Hopefully, in the local church; or at least that’s where it should be.**

**If our churches are to be successful, there must be love, joy, unity, and peace flowing freely in the leadership and the people. This formula applies to any church and any denomination. The unsaved come to our churches looking for answers - not more hang-ups and problems. They need Jesus – not some group wanting control because they have been there the longest or they think their family bought and paid for the facilities. We must remember that if we are “Christians” then we are dead to self, alive in Christ, and dead men own NOTHING.**

Dr. Glenn Mills