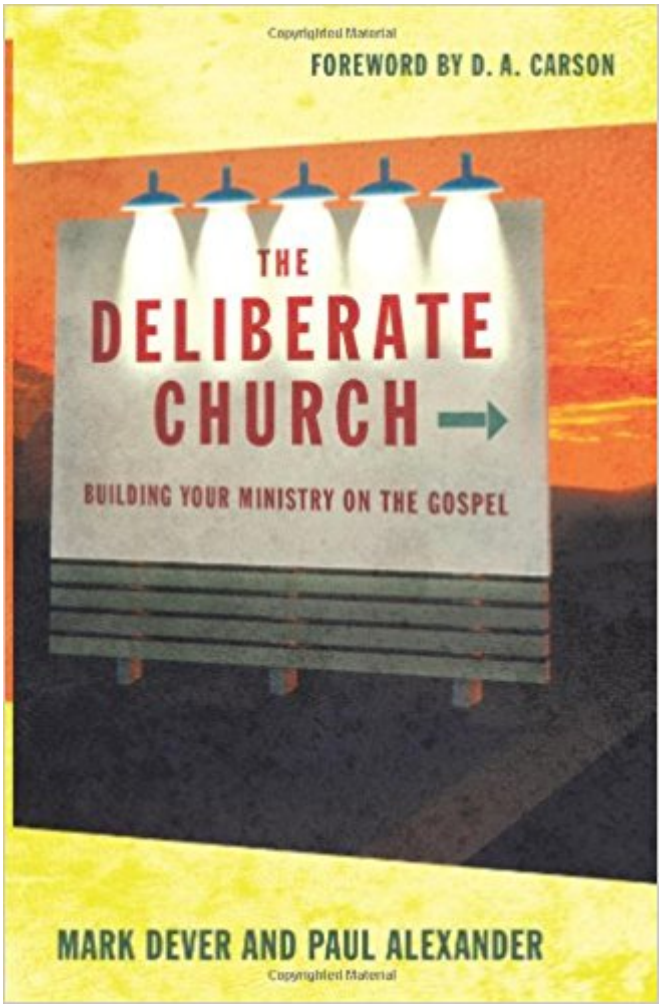
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The Deliberate Church: Building Your Ministry On The Gospel



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Synopsis

Dever and Alexander propose a model of complete reliance and submission to the gospel when building a healthy church. Great resource for pastors, elders, and others interested in the vitality of their church.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"We want to be careful about allowing God’s Word to set our trajectory, power our progress, and govern our methods."

"Here is one of the most faithful and insightful pastors of our time, addressing the most crucial issues of church life. Mark Dever refuses to separate theology and congregational life, combining pastoral insight with clear biblical teaching. This book is a powerful antidote to the merely pragmatic approaches of our day-and a refutation to those who argue that theology just isn’t practical."Ã¢â ¬â •R. Albert Mohler Jr., President and Joseph Emerson Brown Professor of Christian Theology, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary"This book is the perfect example of what a truly practical book on church health and growth should be-it gives concrete guidance for and examples of biblical principles being put into practice in the life and ministry of the local congregation."Ã¢â ¬â •J. Ligon Duncan III,Ã Â Chancellor and CEO, Reformed Theological Seminary, Jackson, Mississippi"Rare indeed are books on the church that begin with the Gospel. Rarer still are books that derive methodology for building the church from the Gospel. This excellent

book does both."Ã¢â ¬â •C. J. Mahaney, Senior Pastor, Sovereign Grace Church, Louisville, Kentucky"The Deliberate Church shares many of the ministry lessons that Dr. Dever and his colleagues have learned from Scripture and sought to implement in the life of their church community. This book is for anyone who wants to get serious about following the biblical pattern for the church and is looking for down-to-earth practical help."Ã¢â ¬â •Philip Graham Ryken, President, Wheaton College; author, Loving the Way Jesus Loves"Here is a novel idea: use the Bible as a handbook to gather and guide the church! And The Deliberate Church is a novel volume indeed, standing amid the spate of 'church-as-corporation, pastor-as-CEO' manuals that glut church life. Here is a book that wafts a radical, refreshing breeze from the pages of Scripture that will breathe life into the church. A crucial read."Ã¢â ¬â •R. Kent Hughes, visiting professor of practical theology, Westminster Theological Seminary

When I first picked up this book I did not expect it to be nearly as practical as it was. Mark Dever is able to combine the theological and biblical principles for church leadership, members, and elders in a clear way and than brings those Scriptures to a very practical level in the day to day out workings of the local church. Would commend this book to pastors, elders, and church leaders. The danger in this book being very practical is walking away with a very particular way that all things must be handled. The practical advice should give us a framework to start with and than through prayer, discussion, and taking into account your context and than fleshing out the details based on those for where God has placed you.

This is a great handbook for any preacher. It is seriously a handbook for the church. It gives great reminders and ideas for those that have been in a church for years and for those who have either just planted a church or that have taken over the reigns as lead pastor. Some of the greatest advice in the book focuses not only on the theological implications of the different methodologies in the church but in exactly how to implement different things in churches so that you don't scare off the sheep.This book is amazing in its practical instruction on certain issues, even the particulars of how to run an elders meeting. So, it is truly designed for use throughout one's ministry and to be used almost as an encyclopedia of sorts of a "how to" for the local church. The book is broken up into four parts:Part I: Gathering the ChurchIn general this section focuses on expository preaching, prayer, missions, membership and disciplinePart II: When the Church GathersThis section focuses on worship and the regulative principle of worship, the ordinances, the role of the pastor, etc.Part III: Gathering EldersThis section focuses on things such as the biblical mandate for elders, the

searching for those men, staffing, etc.Part IV: When the Elders GatherThis section is very practical and walks through how Dever's church handles elder meetings and the role of the lead pastor in those meetings. Very practical.All in all this is a great book. I do not agree with every aspect of it, but those that I don't agree with I never felt as though Dever was "pushing his convictions" but was just putting them forth. This is great to see a man of God just showing the way their church do things without purporting it as the ONLY way, but A way. Very encouraging to see and more understanding of why Dever has been so successful in starting and maintaining the ministry of "Together for the Gospel" with others that don't see eye to eye with him on every aspect of the non-essentials.I would very much like to see this book on the top of every list of books that pastors are ready and wanting to read. Very much needed book when the next great "how to grow your church no matter what" is probably just around another corner.

The authors did a fantastic job of supporting the material while complementing each other without compromising the authority of scripture. This is a great read for pastors, elders and staff members along with non-staff members for the effectual working of ministry through the deliberateness of applying scripture as intended with definitive purpose. I would highly recommend Deliberate Church for the integration of doing ministry the biblical way. New church starts, plants and young pastors can avoid trouble and avail with triumph by having this resource in their lifelong library.Rev. M. J. Moss

Reading Dever's Nine Marks of a Health Church encouraged me to read The Deliberate Church. Mark's 2nd book book fleshes out the nine marks into a "deliberate" mission! Both are greatly helpful much more than the numerous "how to do it" methodology books sold at church growth seminars!

This is a very good and practical book about the local church. It gives us an overview of pastor's Dever church in Washington DC. I suggest a better book on the topic: "The Church: Why Bother?", by pastor Jeffrey D. Johnson.

Will say it is better than the 9 Marks book (1st) and the 2nd in this trilogy. It given in-depth, practical application of what a healthy church is, down to basics, which is far better than 9 Marks that is a checklist and some scripture to back up the 9 points.

Nothing new here. Predictable, wish it were not so.

Ordering copies for our elders. I don't agree with everything, but its such a clear and grounded and sensible biblical argument at every point that it all needs to be discussed and much of it implemented.

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