

Ten Rules for Improving the Church

by Larry Barkston

1. Tell yourself over and over that since you are not perfect, you would not fit into a perfect congregation if one existed.
2. Instead of picking out and pointing to the worldly members, pick out and point to the sincere, dedicated, spiritual members and thank God for them.
3. If you are old, treat the young with the consideration you desired as a young person. If you are young, treat the adults with the respect you will want when you mature.
4. When you see a work being neglected, instead of being critical, offer to help.
5. When you are tempted to criticize others, be sure to pray earnestly for them first. This may not totally change them, but it will do wonders for your attitude.
6. Never blame others for your own failures. Every individual can be fruitful in spite of the bad examples and discouraging attitudes of others if he is determined to do so.
7. Remind yourself every day that the only way you can improve the world or the church is to begin with yourself.
8. Consciously look for the good qualities in every brother or sister in Christ. When you think of a brother or sister, make a quick mental note of the good points each possesses.
9. Constantly strive to increase your circle of associates in the church. Try to do some good for each.
10. Every church has problems. Constantly ask yourself, "Am I a part of the problem, or part of the solution?"

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