

Chapter 5

Chapter Five, compellingly entitled, What Can We Do About It? considers the implications for the Church. It invites church leaders, church communities, scholars, church consultants, and Christians in general to consider what they can do about it. With greater understanding of the issues involved, readers of this book should be enabled with fresh insights in how they can be part of the solution to this church problem.

Excerpt from Chapter 5

Implications for the Church

What are the implications for the Church and for church leadership practices that can be gleaned from these study participants? The following reflections have been inspired by the harvest of insights gained. The following topics will be reviewed: church leadership, the need to recognize dysfunction in the Body of Christ; the need to learn from the corporate wisdom of God's people; the need for compassion for abusive leaders; the need to revisit leadership styles in our churches; the need to teach God's grace and assure Christians of their identity in Christ; the need to rely on the Spirit to develop Christian community; the need to develop discernment skills in the church community; the need to value the place of women in church ministry; and the need to reexamine the teachings and practice of church discipline.