



*Message Title: Becoming the Church that people are looking for*  
Text: Prov. 27: 7  
Date: Sunday, January 20, 2008 at 8:00 am

**Introduction:** The Church of the living God has been given many titles, by men, down through the centuries:

- A lighthouse to communities.
- A way station for weary saints.
- A hospital for the suffering soul.
- A shelter from a storm for the lost.

**All** of those are true statements concerning the Church, but the real question is: What are people looking for as they search for a Church to meet their needs. I want us to have the kind of Church that people are looking for.

**We**, the members and peoples of HBC, must become, now more than ever, the following kind of a Church:

**Our** text tells us that those who are hungry are seeking something to eat, even if it is bitter, in many ways it will still seem sweet to them. We need to be drawing in the hungry souls that are seeking something that will feed them spiritually.

### **Here is the kind of Church that people are looking for:**

1. I Thes. 1: 2-7. A Reaching Church
  - a. Work of faith.
  - b. Labor of love.
  - c. Joy of the Holy Ghost.
2. Acts 20: 28. A Preaching Church.
  - a. It's the Church of God.
  - b. It's the flock of God.
  - c. They must be fed.
3. Phil. 1: 3-11. A Leading Church.
  - a. By fellowship.
  - b. Defending the gospel.
  - c. Striving to increase.

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