

Leadership Conference 2016

Who cares about elders in the church?

This session is for:

Church Members

Aspiring Elders

Elders

I. Who

They Are Men Of Character

“Better a godly elder with mediocre leadership gifts than a charismatic leader with glaring moral flaws.” Mark Dever

Perhaps, there is no greater decision in the life of a church than who will be its elders.

I Timothy 3

Titus 1

Things to note:

The list is really quite basic. Nothing over the top or ridiculous to accomplish. It is really quite ordinary. Every member should be striving for these in their life!

- Above Reproach
- Husband of 1 wife
- Sober minded
- Self - Controlled
- Respectable
- Hospitable

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- Able to teach
- Not a drunkard
- Not violent but gentle
- Not quarrelsome
- Not a lover of money
- Not Greedy
- He knows how to manage his own household.
- A leader in the home
- A respected father
- Not a recent convert

II. What

WHAT he is NOT

WHAT he IS

3 Titles that help us grasp what an elder is....

He is an elder / overseer / shepherd

NOTE: What follows is not necessarily the view of Gospel Partnership. This is my and Trinity's conviction. We realize other churches parse this out in different ways. You need to be convinced of your model from Scripture.

Acts 20:17, 28

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- Paul calls the elders together in vs 17
- He is addressing the elders when he says vs 28.

Elders, oversee, by shepherding.....the church of God

I Peter 5

Peter Exhorts

- Elders vs 1
- Shepherd the flock vs 2
- Exercising Oversight vs 2

Titus 1:5-9

Appoint elders vs 5

for an overseer.... Vs 7

WHAT is he, he is an elder, overseer, shepherd.
WHAT he is called gives us a clue to WHAT he does.

1. He leads

2. He teaches

3. He shepherds

He is a shepherd under the chief Shepherd.

The shepherd cares, feeds, leads, protects Gods people

4. He equips

5. He Cares

III. Why?

IV. How?

(1 Timothy 3:1-7 ESV) [1] The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. [2] Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, [3] not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. [4] He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, [5] for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? [6] He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. [7] Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.

(Titus 1:5-9 ESV) [5] This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you—[6] if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. [7] For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, [8] but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. [9] He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

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(Acts 20:17, 28-29 ESV) [17] Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him.

[28] Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. [29] I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock;

(1 Peter 5:1-5 ESV) [1] So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: [2] shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; [3] not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. [4] And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. [5] Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”