

God's Plan for Leadership in His Church

Pastor Chase Thompson – October 2008

Why Study Leadership?

1. When deacons and elders fulfill their positions, the church will be at its **strongest**.
2. There are so many **misconceptions** about leadership in the church today.
3. If you are not called to be a **servant leader** (elder) or **leading servant** (deacon) now - it is likely that you will one day.

Five things we need to know about leadership in the Body of Christ:

1. It is a **spiritual gift**. (Romans 12:8)
2. Contrary to modern Christianity, **titles** aren't very important. (Matthew 23:7-9)
3. Leadership in the New Testament church was always **plural**. (I.E. a team of leaders: Acts 14:23, 1 Tim. 4:14, Titus 1:5)
4. It is **servant** based. (Mark 10:42-44)
5. Leaders must live lives worth **imitating**, in private as well as public. (Hebrews 13:7)

Five things we need to know about Deacons:

1. The word deacon comes from a root verb that means to s_____ to minister to. The original meaning was of a w_____ or w_____.
2. Deacons are apparently chosen by the c_____ (Acts 6)
3. In a sense, J_____ was a d_____ (Luke 22:27)
4. It is a l_____ s_____ position, not a strictly leading position, as at many churches.
5. Qualifications for Deacons: (1 Timothy 3)
 - A. Must be worthy of r_____.
 - B. s_____
 - C. Not drinking much w_____.
 - D. Not p_____ Dishonest g_____
 - E. Must be t_____.
 - F. Husband of but one w_____.
 - G. Must manage his h_____ and c_____ well

Five things we need to know about Pastors:

1. The word p_____ appears only once in the New Testament, though this is misleading - the accurate word is s_____. (**Ephesians 4:11**)
2. The office of p_____ and e_____ are either very similar, or synonymous. (**Acts 20:28**)
3. Shepherds must protect the f_____.
4. Shepherds should have God's h_____ for the people.
5. Shepherd's should put the people before t_____. (**Ezekiel 34**)

Five things we need to know about Elders:

1. Elders aren't chosen by the congregation, but appointed by e_____ l_____ in the church. Over and above that - they are first chosen and qualified by God.
2. It is Biblical for elders to be p_____ but not too m_____.!
(**1 Timothy 5:17-18**)
3. Elders are called to s_____ m_____. (**James 5:14**)
4. Elders are NOT to be chosen based on: a_____, f_____, s_____, or b_____ ability.
5. Elders must manage their f_____ and c_____ well.

1 Peter 5:1-4 :*To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: 2Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; 3not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. 4And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.*

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