Scott Baker 10.29.23

**1. What is an elder? (1 Peter 5:1-3)**

The elders are the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** leaders in the church, who provide spiritual oversight for all that happens!

They are **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** by God and gifted by Him to serve the church. **(Acts 20:28; 1 Timothy 3:1)**

As far as we can tell from the Bible there was always more than **\_\_\_\_\_** elder in the local churches. **(Acts 14:23; 15:22**; **Titus 1:5; 1 Tim 5:17)**

**2. What does an elder do?**

*Elders:*

**1) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Hebrews 13:17)**

Elders lead, guide, and protect those they are **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** for overseeing.

**2) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(1 Timothy 3:2**; **Titus 1:9)**

Elders must **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** God’s Word themselves so that they can teach it to others and to be able to defend it from false teaching.

**3) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 6:4)**

Elders should be men of prayer **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** seeking God’s will to be done in their lives and in the lives of those that they lead.

**4) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Peter 5:3; 1 Corinthians 11:1)**

Elders set an example with their own walk with Jesus that others can **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

Within the elder body, while equal, they will be **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** roles or functions that the elders carry out. **(1 Timothy 5:17)**

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This is a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** thing for the church because within the elder body each elder has his own giftings, as well as strengths and weaknesses. Collectively, elders can **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** each other out.

**3. How is an elder chosen?**

Elders are chosen by **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**! **(Acts 20:28; Ephesians 4:11-12)**

No **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** or **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** can make a man an elder, only God can do that!

A vote of affirmation does not make a man an elder, it only **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** or recognizes and acknowledges what God is doing in that man’s life by calling him to be an elder.

When God calls someone to be an elder, that calling will be confirmed by their **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. In other words, they will meet the Biblical **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** as outlined in God’s Word.

The only reason you should not affirm an elder candidate is if you have a reason that can be **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** by Scripture to show that they do not meet the Biblical qualifications as listed in God’s Word.