

July 21, 2025

Subject: Monday Sermon Recap: The Biblical Model of Elders

Dear Church Family,

This Sunday, we began our new series, Biblical Biographies of Faithful Legends, exploring real life accounts of faith, obedience, and courage from figures like Abraham, Moses, and Rahab; lessons that challenge us to live boldly for Christ today. Our focus this week was on understanding God's leadership plan for His church, centered on the vital role of elders, the spiritual leaders of the church.

Here are the three essentials on understanding their role:

1. Elders Share Common, Interchangeable Qualities

Elders are described by various titles (pastors, shepherds, overseers, bishops) but these terms highlight shared qualities: spiritual maturity, love for God's flock, and the ability to teach sound doctrine. They are Christ-like leaders who feed, guard, and shepherd the congregation, exemplifying humility, integrity, and wisdom.

2. Elders Are Under-Shepherds

As under-shepherds, elders serve under Christ as their ultimate Good Shepherd. Their responsibilities include teaching, guarding against false doctrine, caring for members, leading by example, and upholding biblical truth. Their leadership is rooted in prayer, study of God's Word, and a humble Servant's heart, always under Jesus' divine authority.

3. Elders Are Chosen Based on Biblical Qualifications

The qualifications for elders are clear in 1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:6-9, and 1 Peter 5:1-5. They are to be spiritually mature, able to teach, morally upright, hospitable, and I would include, demonstrating the Fruit of the Spirit. They must model faithfulness and integrity, living lives worthy of imitation, and

guiding the church with biblical wisdom. Elders are accountable in the body of Christ as they imitate God's holiness in their daily lives.

Personal Application for All of Us:

Imitate the godly example of our leaders - **Hebrews 13:7**

Follow their biblical, servant-hearted leadership with humility and respect - **Hebrews 13:17**

Intercede daily through prayer for their spiritual strength and protection amid spiritual warfare - **Ephesians 6:14-17**

As we are preparing to vote on and adopt a biblical model of church governance and biblical leadership, let's commit to supporting our elders with prayer, faithful obedience, and shared commitment to living out God's vision for His church.

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Carl