

Introduction:

1. The _____ of Elder (1 Tim 3:1-2; Titus 1:5, 7).

A. _____ for Leadership (Acts 20:17, 28; Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim 3:1-2; Titus 1:5, 7; 1 Pet. 5:1-2).

B. _____ Leadership (Acts 14:23; 20:17; 1 Tim. 5:17; Titus 1:5; Jam. 5:14; 1 Pet. 5:1).

C. _____ Leadership (1 Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9).

2. The _____ of an Elder (1 Tim 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-16; 1 Pet. 5:1-4).

3. The _____ of an Elder.

A. To _____ the flock (Acts 20:28; 1 Tim. 5:17a; 3:4-5; Titus 1:7).

B. To _____ for the flock (Acts 20:28, 35; Ezek. 34:5-7; Jam. 5:14).

C. To _____ the flock (1 Tim. 5:17; 3:2; Titus 1:9; Acts 15:1-6; 2:42; Ezek. 34:1-3).

D. To _____ the flock (Acts 20:28-31; Heb. 13:17 [1 Pet. 2:25]; Titus 1:9-14; Jn 10:1-21).

Conclusion:

Community Group Questions

1. The N.T. uses the words overseer, elder, and shepherd/pastor to describe the same role for church leadership (See Acts 20:17, 28; 1 Pet. 5:1-2). What does each term mean?
2. What are the four main responsibilities of church leadership?
3. Why is it required that only certain men can serve in the role of elders/overseers/shepherds? What is the Biblical teaching concerning this issue (See 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9)?
4. How is it possible to believe in male and female equality and still maintain male leadership in the home (Eph. 5:22-33) and the church (1 Tim. 3:1-7, 14-15)? What is the difference between being and function or role?
5. What does the Bible have to say about the responsibilities of the flock towards their shepherds? (See Heb. 13:7, 17; 1 Thess. 5:12-13; 1 Pet. 5:5-6).
6. What does the Bible teach about the character qualifications for church leadership? (See 1 Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9). Should we expect our leaders to be perfect? If not, then what should we expect?