

GODLY LEADERSHIP, A HEALTHY CHURCH

1 Peter 5.1-9

NOTES:

WHAT ARE ELDERS?

Pastors/Shepherds: The Greek word "poimen" appears 18 times in the NT, which includes 15 times as an actual shepherd, twice to describe Jesus, and once to describe a ministry role. Likewise, 11 times it's used as a verb, with 4 of those times used for spiritual feeding, once as feeding *fa/se* detaching, 4 times to describe rule (usually of Christ), and twice to feed livestock.

The Trinity as the Model: Elders are equal with all members of the body, including Deacons. It is only the role and responsibility that changes, just as how the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are one, yet they have different roles and "responsibilities" in the work of salvation.

Pastor/Elders are to lead primarily through "word" gifts.

PETER'S EXAMPLE OF HUMBLE LEADERSHIP

So: Peter is referring back to earlier context of suffering and holding other believers accountable (4.17-19). Pastors are to be held to the highest standard. (James 3.1).

Peter relates as a "fellow elder," not as an apostle. He subtly reminds them that he witnessed the suffering of Christ, no doubt invoking memory that upon that witnessing, he actually denied Jesus. Nonetheless, Jesus restored him, and Peter then repeats the restorative words of Jesus now to his readers.

John 21.15-19

HOW SHOULD THE ELDERS LEAD?

Willingly	NOT	Grudgingly
Eagerly	NOT	Out of Greed
In Service	NOT	Domineering

Titus 1.5-9 // 1 Timothy 3.1-7
Ephesians 4.11-16 // Acts 6.1-7 // Exodus 18.13-27



WANT TO GET CONNECTED?

- **JOIN A COMMUNITY GROUP!**
If you want to get connected to a group of people near your neighborhood, let us know by filling out the **Connection Card** or visiting the **Connection Booth** in the Atrium!
- **JOIN A MINISTRY TEAM!**
We would love to have you come serve our community with us. Let us know on our **Connection Card** that you want to help!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

GPS MEETING TOMORROW NIGHT!

Join with us tomorrow at **6.30pm** here at Gateway for our monthly **GPS Meeting**. We'll have a time of worship, prayer, and looking ahead to see where God is moving us toward as a church. Childcare provided.

LIFE MISSION AT CRUISIN' GRAND!

Mark your calendar for **Friday, May 31st!** The LMC band will be out at **Cruisin' Grand** playing our Celtic music set! Come out and enjoy the music, the cars, and the kettle corn!

SERMON CDs AVAILABLE

If you would like a copy of the sermon from today's service, go to the sound booth in the back right after service. They will make one just for you!

Also, make sure to not just watch, but also subscribe to our **YouTube Channel**, which is at [youtube.com/LifeMissionTV](https://www.youtube.com/LifeMissionTV). You will get notified AS SOON as our sermons and short videos go up online!

KIDS ON MISSION

Please log on to check out www.lifemissionchurch.com and click "Kids" at the top to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart and his walk through of our curriculum.

Also, the daily devotional book, **Long Story Short**, is available in the Atrium to purchase.



SAVE.

Jesus was sent to save. We have been saved to be sent. We are sent into our community to share the Good News that Christ came to save us, and we hope to see many who find new life.

EQUIP.

We want to equip those very people in the Word so that they can continue to grow as disciples of Christ. From our preschool to our adults, our passion is to see everyone equipped in the Gospel to live a life of freedom and joy.

SEND.

Lastly, we then want to see those equipped people sent into their community and world. From schools and playgrounds, to families and work places, we want to see people who are spiritual leaders in their life, showing people the truth of Christ's Good News.

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COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

What stuck out to you the most or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday? _____

Read **1 Peter 5.1-9**. What words or thoughts through these first few verses jump out at you? _____

Read **James 3.1**. Why do you think God has a stricter judgment on teachers?

By that verse alone, it's clear that God takes the handling of His Word very seriously. Read **Matthew 7.15-23** and **2 Timothy 4.2-4**. What is most interesting about these false teachers here? _____

It's one thing to reject the teachings of Buddha or Mohammed, but the Word warns us of people who *look* like they are in line. When you choose to read a book or get advice, how do you ensure that the book or advice is biblical, rather than just *sounding* biblical? _____

The word "sound" (as in "sound doctrine") in the bible means "healthy." Why is it important to make sure that what you are reading, watching, or listening to is "sound doctrine"? When is a time or season in your Christian life that you were being "fed" or believed false teaching? How did it change and what was the result? _____

Read **Hebrews 13.17**. What sticks out to you in this verse? _____

At the end of the verse, it says that *not* submitting to spiritual leaders would not be beneficial for us. Why do you think it's a disadvantage to be unsubmitted?

God created us to be in community, and He has given gifts in the form of pastors, teachers, etc. (**Ephesians 4.11-16**) to shepherd, teach, and feed us. Without sound teaching, the ideals of the world and our own sinful desires would ruin us.

Hearing and believing "sound doctrine" is crucial for growth. Without it, we will have unhealthy spiritual lives. What is an area or areas of your life that you think you need to learn or grow in so that you can get more healthy as a Christian?

Seek out some counsel or advice on how you can grow in that area by taking in good, sound teaching that can help reshape and reform your heart and mind.

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