

Jeff Bartell // July 12 09

CHURCH BUILDING

"Building a Solid Framework"

God's LEADERSHIP Team

Ephesians 5:25
Ephesians 2:19-22; 4:16
1 Corinthians 3:9-23

Leadership determines the DESIGN of the building.

THE LEADERS: God's men for the job.

3 different TERMS (elders; bishops; shepherds) refer to the same position.

A. HISTORY

1 Peter 5:1-2
Acts 20:17, 28

ELDER = simply means OLDER, but implies WISDOM that comes with age.

Numbers 11:14-16
Deuteronomy 27:1

BISHOP = Overseer – an official position of leadership.

1st Mention: Acts 1:20

Also mentioned in: Philippians 1:1; 1 Timothy 3:1-2;
Titus 1:7; 1 Peter 2:25

SHEPHERD (Pastor) = deals with the care and feeding

1st Mention (NT): Matthew 9:36

John 10; Hebrews 13:20; 1 Peter 2:25; 1 Peter 5:4 – all in reference to Jesus Himself

Ephesians 4:11

“Elder” deals more with the CHARACTER.
“Bishop and Shepherd” deal more with the FUNCTION.

B. FUNCTION

1 Timothy 3:1

The work of the Elder / Bishop / Shepherd is to “take care” of the church.

1. He is to FEED – He is responsible for the proper study, preparation and teaching of the word of God – the bread of life – in order to feed the flock of God.

1 Peter 5:2
Ephesians 4:11
1 Timothy 3:2
1 Timothy 5:17

2. He is to LEAD – He is responsible for providing the framework through which believers can know God’s word and God’s will. He is responsible to JUDGE in spiritual matters.

1 Peter 5:2
1 Timothy 5:17
Hebrews 13:7
Hebrews 13:17

C. TEAMWORK

Acts 13:1
Acts 14:23
Acts 20:17
Titus 1:5
1 Timothy 5:17

D. SELECTION

1 Timothy 3:1-2

Three things to look for:

CHARACTER – “blameless”

GIFTING – “apt to teach”

CALLING – “desire the office”