

THE ROLE OF AN ELDER AT CALVARY CHURCH

The role of our Elders at Calvary Church is critically important so that we have a healthy, growing church. Their role according to Scripture is found in I Peter 5 and Hebrews 13:17.

Each man has been called by the Lord to provide spiritual oversight for the congregation. Just as Jesus is our Good Shepherd, He has also called for spiritual shepherds in our church who can lead, pray and counsel the church with wisdom, love and grace.

The motive for providing this leadership is completely voluntary. Peter warns that none are to serve for their own personal gain but rather for the good of the entire church. Just as Jesus did not come to be served but to serve, our Elders have come to serve us in humility.

Their leadership style is not to be authoritarian or "lording it over" the church. Rather, they are to lead us by modeling a Christ-like character; Peter says they are to be "examples to the flock." Their actions and attitudes are to model Jesus Christ in their family, work place and all church ministries.

Please remember that these men are not perfect, so uphold them with your prayers and kind words as they strive to lead us and grow in their own faith to become more like Christ, the Good Shepherd of our church. Their responsibility is a high calling.

Scripture teaches us to submit to their authority "for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account." As we all serve together this way, our church will grow into that mature body of Christ. (Hebrews 13:17)

