

# Elders and Deacons

Session 6

# How is church life structured?

- Draw a diagram of the authority structure of LPC or of whichever church you belong to.

# Elders

- Elders: Acts 14vs23; 20vs17-31; 1 Tim. 5vs17; Titus 1vs5-9
- Overseers/Bishops: Acts 20vs28; Phil. 1vs1; 1 Tim. 3vs1-10; Titus 1vs7
- Pastor/Shepherd: Eph. 4vs11; Acts 20vs28; 1 Peter 5vs1-2
- Leaders: Hebrews 13vs7, 17 and 24

# How many elders

- Acts 20vs17-28, Titus 1vs5
- Why?
  - Pooling of strength and to neutralise weaknesses
  - Encourages stability and continuity
  - Provides a structure of accountability
  - Pastoral burden is shared

# What do elders do?

- Preach: 1 Tim. 5vs17
- Teach: 1 Tim. 3vs2
- Oversee, guide: Heb. 13vs17, 1 Peter 5vs1-3
- Correct: Titus 1vs9
- Direct the affairs of the church: 1 Tim. 5vs17, Heb. 13vs17
- Build up: Eph. 4vs11-16

# What sort of person must an elder be?

	Character	Ability	Situation
<b>1 Timothy 3vs1-9</b>	Above reproach (vs.2)	Able to teach (vs.2)	Male (vs.1)
	Monogamous (vs.2)	Able to manage his household (vs.4)	Not a recent convert (vs.6)
	Sober-minded (vs.2)		Well thought of by outsiders (vs.6)
	Self-controlled (vs.2)		
	Respectable (vs.2)		
	Hospitable (vs.2)		
	Sober (vs.3)		
	Gentle (vs.3)		
	Not quarrelsome (vs.3)		
	Not a lover of money (vs.3)		

# What sort of person must an elder be?

Titus 1vs5-9	Character	Situation
	Above reproach (vs.6)	Well behaved family (vs.6)
	Monogamous (vs.6)	
	Not arrogant (vs.7)	
	Not quick-tempered (vs.7)	
	Sober (vs.7)	
	Not violent (vs.7)	
	Not greedy (vs.7)	
	Hospitable (vs.8)	
	Lover of good (vs.8)	
	Self-controlled (vs.8)	
	Upright (vs.8)	
	Holy (vs.8)	
	Disciplined (vs.8)	
Holding firmly to sound doctrine (vs.9)		

- How is he to carry out his work?
  - 1 Peter 5vs1-3, Hebrews 13vs7
- How is this work facilitated?
  - Hebrews 13vs17, 1 Tim. 5vs17-18
- How do elders relate to the church?
  - Acts 14vs23

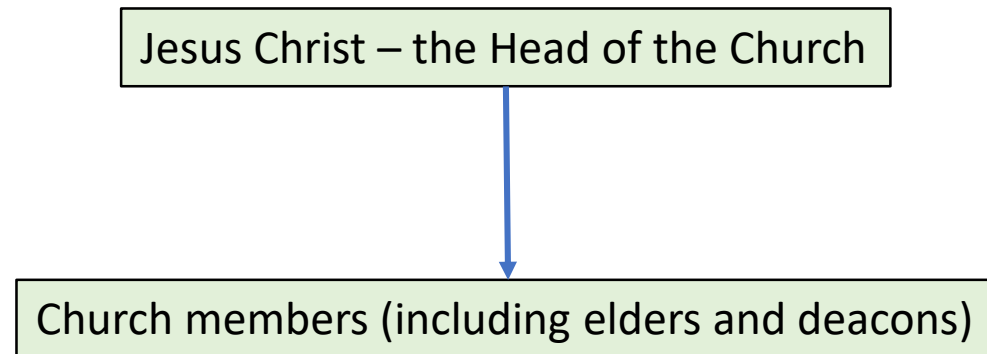


# Elder rule or church rule?

# Deacons

- Servants
- Dealing with practical needs
- Qualifications of deacons
- Responsibilities of deacons

# The authority structure of the local church



A biblical church is one that has a biblical view of elders and deacons because this is God's blueprint to help a church function as he intends it should.