Instructions on elders

1 Timothy 5:17-25

Biblical Model of the New Testament Church:

A plurality of elders provides teaching & oversight for each church

When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch,

Acts 14:21–23

strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.

Acts 14:21–23

And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

Acts 14:21–23 ESV

Biblical Model of the New Testament Church:

A plurality of elders provides teaching & oversight for each church

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the

Ephesians 4:11–16

faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried

Ephesians 4:11–16

about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the

Ephesians 4:11–16

whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Ephesians 4:11–16 ESV

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1st Instruction on elders-

Show respect and honor (v. 17-18)

For it is written in the Law of Moses, “You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain.” Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not certainly speak for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the

1 Corinthians 9:9–11

plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of sharing in the crop. If we have sown spiritual things among you, is it too much if we reap material things from you?

1 Corinthians 9:9–11 ESV

2nd Instruction on elders-

Rebuke an elder persisting in sin. (v. 19-22)

But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and

Galatians 2:11–14

separated himself, fearing the circumcision party. And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. But when I saw that their conduct was

Galatians 2:11–14

not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, “If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?”

Galatians 2:11–14 ESV

3rd instruction on elders-

Choose trustworthy elders. (v. 23-25)

Why are these instructions so important?

Because God the Father, Christ Jesus, and the angels are watching!

Jesus is sanctifying His Church!

“so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.” Ephesians 5:27 ESV

Where do we get the courage to live this out?

Honoring Christ in the Church begins with our own humility and our adoration of the Savior.

"You then my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus." 2 Timothy 2:1