

The Elder Assessment Form

Overview

The role of the elder in the church is one of spiritual oversight. It is distinct from that of the deacon in that the deacon serves to manage the material and business side of the church.

We first read about elders functioning in the Jerusalem church when Paul and Barnabas conveyed a financial offering to them from the church in Antioch because of a famine. This is twelve years after the account of deacons being appointed by the apostles. In the *Book of Acts*, we read about elders being appointed in every church; they functioned as apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers within the church. If you believe that God has or is calling you into one of these five ministries, you may complete this form.

Scripture Reading

¹ *This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop (spiritual overseer), he desires a good work.* ² *A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach;* ³ *not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous;* ⁴ *one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence* ⁵ *(for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?);* ⁶ *not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil.* ⁷ *Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil (1 Timothy 3:1-7, NKJV). (Parenthesis added).*

⁵ *For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you--* ⁶ *if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination.* ⁷ *For a bishop (spiritual overseer), must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money,* ⁸ *but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled,* ⁹ *holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict (Titus 1:5-9, NKJV). (Parenthesis added).*

Personal Survey

Please read over the following qualifications for the Elder office in the church.

Indicate by checking the box if you agree with the statement. This form is confidential and will be discussed only with you and the spiritual overseer.

- I have a good reputation in the church and in the community.
- Single Person: I keep myself morally pure. I do not have an issue with pornography.
- Married Person: I am sexually faithful to my spouse and do not lust after others. I have overcome the temptation of pornography.
- I am level-headed and sensible.
- I am self-controlled, moderate, and trustworthy.
- I would be considered by others to be hospitable.

- I do not get drunk.
- I am not violent, given to anger, or quarrelsome.
- I am patient and peaceable.
- I am not covetous nor greedy for money.
- Person with Children at Home: I manage my children and household well. I am attentive to the needs of my children and spouse. My children are not unruly.
- I am not a novice. I have walked with the Lord for _____ years.
- I feel confident in instructing the saints and equipping them for the work of the ministry in the area that I am called.
- I am able to lovingly correct those who don't hold to sound doctrine.

Follow-up

There may be some items on the Personal Survey that you were hesitant to check. If so, the spiritual overseer of the church is here to help you, not condemn you. We are all on a journey of being conformed into Christ's image. Please indicate below if there are any areas listed above that you struggle with.

Have you previously served in the church as a deacon? Yes No. Please explain:

What is your primary calling within the five-fold ministry?

- apostle prophet evangelist pastor teacher

What are your other spiritual gift(s)? _____

Instructions

Please place the completed *Elder Assessment Form* in a sealed envelope and give to a pastor.

Applicant's name

Contact Number

Date

Office Use
