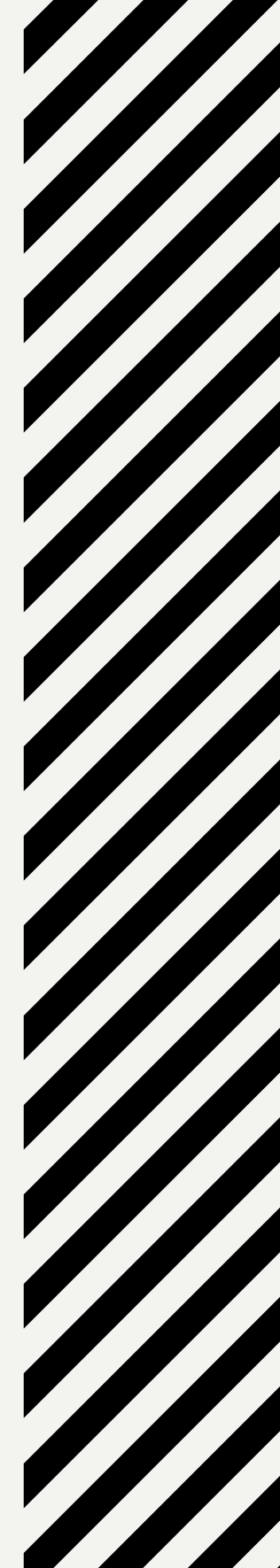


THE MINISTRY OF THE ELDER



The Apostolic Network of International Churches & Ministries

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

THE APOSTOLIC NETWORK
OF INTERNATIONAL
CHURCHES & MINISTRIES

The Definition of Elders
The Qualifications of Elders
The Roles of Elders

TOPICS TO DISCUSS

THE DEFINITION OF ELDERS

PRESBYTEROS

The Greek word Paul uses for elder is presbyteros.

In its natural state the word simply means older person or a senior.

TODAY'S ELDER

In our context the word means a person who is spiritually and emotionally mature, and wise.

OLD TESTAMENT ELDER

Elders were responsible for leading worship, administering correction and discipline, settling disputes, giving direction, and managing finances.

Let the elders (presbyters) who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine.

ABOVE REPROACH

Elders must lead by example and demonstrate a lifestyle free from patterns of sin.

HUSBAND OF ONE WIFE

Elders, if married, must be devoted spouses.

TEMPERATE

Elders must be self-controlled, enslaved to nothing, and free from excesses.

SENSIBLE

Elders must be sober, sensible, wise, balanced in judgment, not given to quick, superficial decisions based on immature thinking.

THE QUALIFICATIONS OF ELDERS IN THE CHURCH

RESPECTABLE

Elders must demonstrate a well-ordered life and honorable behavior.

HOSPITABLE

Elders must be unselfish with personal resources, willing to share blessings with others.

ABLE TO TEACH

Elders must be able to communicate truth and sound doctrine in a non-argumentative way.

NOT ADDICTED TO WINE

Elders must be free from addictions.

THE QUALIFICATIONS OF ELDERS IN THE CHURCH

NOT
CONTENTIOUS
OR QUICK-
TEMPERED

Elders
must be gentle,
patient, and able to
exercise self-control
in difficult
situations.

NOT
ARGUMENTATI-
VE

Elders
must not be given to
quarreling or selfish
argumentation.

NOT GREEDY
FOR MONEY

Elders
must not be stingy,
greedy, or for sordid
gain, or preoccupied
with amassing
material things.

MANAGE OWN
HOUSEHOLD

Elders
must have a well-
ordered household
and a healthy family
life.

THE QUALIFICATIONS OF ELDERS IN THE CHURCH

MATURE IN THE FAITH

Elders must not be new believers or recent converts.

GOOD REPUTATION

Elders must be well-respected by unbelievers and free from hypocrisy.

NOT SELF-WILLED

Elders must not be stubborn, or prone to forcing their opinions on others or abusing authority. They must be servant minded.

LOVE WHAT IS GOOD

Elders must desire the will of God in every decision.

THE QUALIFICATIONS OF ELDERS IN THE CHURCH

JUST AND OF GOOD JUDGEMENT

Elders must desire to be fair and impartial. Their judgments must be based on scriptural principles.

DEVOTED TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER

Elders must be devoted Christ followers, seeking to be conformed to His image. They must be committed to prayer, worship, the study of Scripture, and the guarding of their spiritual walk.

HOLDING FAST THE FAITHFUL WORD

Elders must not be stubborn, or prone to forcing their opinions on others or abusing authority. They must be servant minded.

THE QUALIFICATIONS OF ELDERS IN THE CHURCH

THE ROLES OF ELDERS IN THE CHURCH



SUPPORT

support the work of ascension gifts, to care for the people and establish the vision of the church or churches.



LEAD

They must supervise and govern in the church, as a father would his family.



OCCUPY

Elders should occupy themselves with caring, pastoring, feeding and counseling people.

THE ROLES OF ELDERS IN THE CHURCH



TEACH

All Elders are not public preachers, but are always teachers. They should have the ability to advise and teach the Word of God.



GUARD

Elders guard the integrity of apostolic or pastoral instruction among the people.



SERVE

Elders should be willing to visit and pray for the sick, especially those in the congregation.



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