

# The Church — **Saints, Elders, & Deacons**

*1 Timothy 3:1*

# ***The Saints, Elders, and Deacons***

- **With regard to "how to do church," what does the New Testament not talk about?**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- **What does the New Testament reveal about church leadership in Philippians 1:1?**

# ***Overseers = Elders = Pastors***

- **To what does the term overseer refer?**
- **To what does the term elder refer?**
- **To what does the term pastor or shepherd refer?**
- **An elder is an overseer, who is also a \_\_\_\_\_**

# ***Plurality of Church Leaders***

- **Where did the early churches meet (Romans 16:5; 1 Corinthians 16:19; Colossians 4:15; Philemon 1:2)?**
- **What is the message about elders from Acts 15:22-23; 20:17; 1 Timothy 5:17; 1 Peter 5:1; Acts 16:4; 21:18?**
- **What does Acts 11:30 and Acts 14:23 reveal about elders?**
- **How many elders does God want each church to have?**

# ***Responsibilities of Elders***

- **1 Timothy 5:17 helps us understand the most important responsibility of an elder? What is it?**
- **James 5:14 describes another responsibility of elders. What is it?**
- **1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 describes a responsibility of elders. What is it?**

# ***If A Man Aspires . . .***

*1 Timothy 3:1*

- **What is the meaning of the Greek word “aspires”?**
- **Describe a good reason for a man to aspire to be an elder.**
- **Can a man have a wrong desire?**

# ***It Is A Fine Work . . .***

*1 Timothy 3:1*

- **What is the meaning of the Greek word “fine”?**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- **What is the meaning of the Greek word “work”?**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- **It is a trustworthy \_\_\_\_\_.**

# ***Conclusion***

- **Draft Constitution / ByLaws:**
  - **Refers to a plurality of elders.**
  - **“The Elders” will have the responsibilities as given in Scripture.**
  - **The responsibilities include:**
    - **Oversight (Acts 20:28; Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:1, Titus1:7)**
    - **Pastor or shepherd the church (Acts 20:23; Eph. 4:11; 1 Pet 5:2).**
  - **Pastor, overseer, and elder refer to the same office (Acts 20:17,28; 1 Pet. 5:1-2).**