

Function and Role of Elders Revised questions

These are the questions that were raised during the first sessions of our Study on the role and function of Elders. I have grouped together those that I think fall into the same category of question. The questions dealing with process I have included at the end with a brief commentary.

Jeff

1. What is the purpose of elders?
 - a. What teaching skills does an Elder have?
2. How will the congregation know the men who will lead?
 - a. How do we determine somebody knows who God is and who determines that?
3. How can we know if these men and their wives can hold Confidentiality?
4. What does a spiritual man look like?
 - a. What does a spiritual woman look like?
5. What is the elder's wife's role?
 - a. What role does the reputation of elder's wife have?
6. How does God work through us to choose the elders?
7. What does it mean to manage one's household well?
 - a. What does the husband of one wife mean?
 - b. What does a one woman man look like?
8. When does a person's offspring transfer from being a child to adult?
 - a. What is the responsibility of parents with adult children outside the household?
9. How old must one be to be an elder and how long in the faith?
 - a. Who holds elders accountable?
10. What does an elder's life look like within the community? (reputation)
 - a. What does it mean to be above reproach?
 - b. Is it appropriate for an elder to drink alcohol?
11. Must a prospective Elder already be functioning like an Elder? If so what does that look like?
 - a. What is the elder's prayer life like?
 - b. Is there any **forgiven sin** that could prohibit a man from serving as an elder?

12. What is the congregation's responsibility to the elder/elders?
 - a. What is the role of the congregation towards Elders?

13. What are the checks and balances/ relationships between the elder and congregation, deacons, evangelists
 - a. Can a preacher serve as an elder?

14. What congregational decisions can an elder make?
 - a. Who sets the vision/direction of the congregation?
 - b. If changes need to be made who makes that decision?

15. Who decides where and how the money is spent.
 - a. Who hires and fires staff?

Jeff will deal with the following Questions at the end of all presentations. The final detailed process will be presented to the Men's meeting prior to presentation to the whole congregation.

1. What Process of selecting elders will we use?
 - a. Are there term limits on elders?
 - b. Who chooses elders?
 - c. How are elders chosen?