

Thoughts for Today

Leaders/Overseers

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Leaders can get people to do what they want them to do, but if the person your leading has not changed in their hearts, the leader has not led them spiritually in the direction God wants them to go. Leaders walking by the spirit of God will lead people to go to God and to grow with Him.

There is really no distinction between Leaders and believers in the truth that we are all born again, we all have access to God we are all saved by Grace, we can all be led and walk by the spirit of God. But the Scripture teach that there is a distinction between leaders and Followers in the body of Christ.

God is a God of order and has set the members in the body of Christ

Romans 12:4-8, ⁴For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:

⁵ So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

⁶ Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;

⁷ Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;

⁸ Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

1Corinthians 12:27 ²⁷ Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.

Leaders are called elders

Acts 20:17 And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church.

Elders show maturity of faith in other records leaders are referred to as overseers

Acts 20:28 ²⁸ Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

also Leaders are referred to as Bishops

1 Timothy 3:1-2 This is a true saying, if a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.

² A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

Bishop is the Greek word episkopos **Strong's G1985** says a superintendent a Christian officer in general Charge of the church

Titus 1:5,7 This is a true saying, if a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.

² A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

and Acts 20:17,28 This is an office of a Pastor and

Ephesians 4:11 ¹¹ And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

1 Peter 5:1-2 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:

² Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

Christ being the Chief Shepherd.

Here are other records that refer to Leaders in the body of Christ

1 Thessalonians 5:12, ¹² And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;

1 Timothy 5:17, ¹⁷ Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.

Hebrews 13:7,17,24, ⁷ Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

¹⁷ Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

²⁴ Salute all them that have the rule over you, and all the saints. They of Italy salute you.

Acts 15:22 ²² Then pleased it the apostles and elders with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas and Silas, chief men among the brethren:

Leaders should Lead and Leadership is primary influence. The way leaders influence others is by the godly example and teaching of God's word. we are to lead by example, a leader should be apt to teach to exhort in sound doctrine and leader are to have godly qualities.

It is also interesting to see that the words Leader and Leader's and Leadership are not in the church epistles. In the Gospel's the word Leaders is used once, in Matthew 15:14 where Jesus mentions the blind leaders of the blind.

Matthew 15:14 ¹⁴ Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.

Even though the words Leader and Leader's and Leadership are not in the Church Epistle, In today's terminology these words are used a lot among believers all over the world. To the unbeliever or new person who first comes among our fellowship's these words Leader and Leader's, and Leadership would fully communicate to them. So we can use these words for their understanding.

well just some of my thoughts I was inspired to share with you have a great day
xx