

According to God, leadership within the church is to be based upon spiritual **qualifications** for service.



Within the Bible the terms "elder, shepherd, overseer" are all used interchangeably to speak of the same office of leadership within the church.



"elder" Grk: presputeros (Spiritual maturity)

"overseer" Grk: episkopos (look over the affairs of the church)



"shepherd" Grk: poimen

(lead, feed, and protect the flock)

"elder" Grk: presbuteros- 16 times in NT (spiritual maturity)

"overseer" Grk: episkopos- <u>4</u> times in NT (look over the affairs of the church)



"shepherd" Grk: poimen- 4 times in NT (lead, feed, and protect the flock)

- aspire
- above reproach
- husband of one wife
- self-controlled
- respectable

- hospitable
- able to teach
- not a drunkard
- not violent, but gentle
- not quarrelsome
- not a lover of money
- manages household well

- not a new convert
- Well thought of by outsiders
- not self-willed
- not arrogant

- not quick-tempered
- loves what is good
- upright, holy, and disciplined

What concerns God the most is the **godly <u>character</u>** and **spiritual <u>maturity</u>** of those who lead.



Regardless if you have a title or not, ALL believers are called to pursue **godliness**.



#### Bioliography

Dever, Mark. "Understanding Church Leadership" 2016

Spurgeon, Charles. Source: AZQuotes

Akin, Daniel. "The Single-Elder-Led Church: The Bible's Witness to a Congregational/Single-Elder-Led Polity" Perspectives on Church Government, 2004

