

June 01, 2025



CHURCH

LEADERSHIP

MATTERS

Week One:
The Call To
Leadership

Central Church of Christ
Dalton, GA

welcome

to the central church of christ

Whether you're visiting or a regular, we're glad you're here!
We pray today's worship encourages your heart and
strengthens your faith.

"Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood." (Acts 20:28, NKJV)

families with children

We offer Wee Worship for children ages 2-7 during the sermon & nursery care for babies and toddlers. Restrooms are located in the main hallway.

connect with us

Whether you're a first-time guest or a regular member, we'd love to know you're here!

Text "Check In" to 706-278-8051

Let us know you're worshipping with us today and how we can serve or pray for you.

contact us

515 North Tibbs Road
Dalton, GA 30720
706-278-8051

www.ccocdalton.org
centralcoc@ccocdalton.org
facebook.com/centralcocdalton



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the call to leadership

week one

The topic of church leadership is both exciting and scary at the same time. This is a defining moment in the life of our church. Over the next few weeks we will discuss matters that have the potential to shape the direction of this church for years to come.

Not everyone is called to lead in an official role, but we all have a role to play in supporting leadership. So, as we talk about the kind of men we need to help shepherd and serve this congregation, I ask that you:

- * Listen and engage with the upcoming lessons
- * Pray for wisdom and unity throughout the process
- * Reflect on who can help lead alongside our current elders

There are several key passages we will explore in this series that relate to appointing men of proven character to positions of church leadership. These scriptures are provided below for you to read and consider:

- * Acts 1:21–26; Acts 6:1–7; Acts 14:23; Acts 20:17–32
- * 1 Timothy 3:1–13; Titus 1:5–9
- * James 5:13–16; 1 Peter 5:1–4

Our goal is not just to add additional elders but to strengthen the church for generations to come. Central is blessed with three godly men who currently serve as shepherds. These leaders are seeking out men who can help lead us forward with wisdom and care. If you feel called to join them in this important work, we encourage you to pray, reflect, and be open to how God may use you to help lead His people.

Shane Robinson
shane@ccocdalton.org

Sermon Outline

This lesson is about moving the needle forward by helping us reflect on what it means to be called to lead.

What Being Called Is NOT About

- **David:** Not based on being Asked to step up. Nobody invited David to the fight; he saw a need and stepped up when others wouldn't (1 Samuel 17:26-30).
- **Moses:** Not based on having a Desire to step up. Moses became a nobody after fleeing Egypt as a failed leader; he made excuse after excuse before stepping up to lead (Exodus 4:10-13).
- **Esther:** Not based on Seeking a leadership role. Esther was thrust into leadership in a moment of crisis; her true calling began when she embraced responsibility (Esther 4:13-17).

What Being Called Is About

- **Being called is about Responding to real needs.** When God calls someone to lead, it's often in response to a pressing need among His people (1 Sam. 17:45-47; Ex. 3:7-10; Est. 4:8).
- **Being called is about Trusting God's plan for your life.** A calling involves faith that God can use your past for His purposes (1 Sam. 17:37; Ex. 3:12; 4:12; Est. 4:14).
- **Being called is about Embracing a greater purpose.** God calls leaders to serve His mission, even when it requires great personal sacrifice (1 Sam. 17:8-11; Ex. 4:19-20; Est. 4:16).

bible class info

An Intro to Church Leadership (1)

Primary Text: Titus 1:5

Leadership Was Never Meant to Be Only the Apostles

“For this reason I left...”

The Apostles Laid the Foundation: From the beginning of the church, the apostles were the go-to people for church matters (Ac.1:8; cp. Mt.16:18-20).

Elders Worked Alongside the Apostles: As the church expanded, we read of elders working along side the apostles (Ac.11:30; 15:2, 6, 23).

Authority Rested in Apostolic Teaching: During this transitional period, the authority of a congregation rested upon the teaching of the apostles and not the apostles themselves (1 Cor.3:11; Eph.2:20; Ac. 2:42-46; 20:15-17).

Elders Took the Place of the Apostles: After the apostles, churches were led by qualified elders and followed a self-governing pattern (1 Tim. 3; Tit. 1).

Evangelists Played a Role in Appointing Elders

“...you in Crete that you may...”

Delegated responsibility: Paul left Titus in Crete to preach AND establish leadership within the churches (Tit. 1:5; 2:1, 15).

Apostolic instruction: Titus carried out his role by following teaching handed down from Paul (2 Tim. 2:2).

Shared responsibility: In the book of Acts, appointing leaders involved the authority of Scripture (Acts 1), participation from the congregation (Acts 6), and guidance from trusted leaders (Acts 14).

Churches Were Never Meant to Remain Disorganized

“... set in order the things that are lacking...”

“ Set in Order ” = Finish What Was Started. Paul had begun organizing the churches, but Titus was left behind to complete the process.

Ask yourself: Could God be calling me to step up?

“What Is Lacking ” = Address What’s Missing. The churches in Crete were missing essential leadership and structure, and that left them vulnerable to error and instability (cf. Tit. 1:10–11).

Ask yourself: Am I willing to step up if the church has a need?

scripture reading

Exodus 3:7-10

“And the Lord said: “I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites. Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.””
(Exodus 3:7–10, NKJV)

* The New King James Version. Thomas Nelson, 1982.