

Need for Leads

Series: Leadership Core Family (Message 1) **Date:** June 6, 2021

As the leaders go, so goes the church.

- Mark 3:13–15

Bad leadership rots the church.

- Matthew 7:15–20

We must be aware of our leaders and their core.

Bad leadership rots the church, good leadership preserves the church, so let's get the core of leadership right.

- Acts 20:17-35
- Acts 20:17

Elders govern the church.

- 1 Timothy 5:17
 - Acts 20:28
- 1. The word of God checks the elders.**
 - Acts 20:32–35
 - 2. The plurality checks the elders.**
 - Proverbs 11:14
 - 3. The example of Christ checks the elders.**
 - Matthew 20:25–28
 - 1 Corinthians 11:1

Bad leadership rots the church, good leadership preserves the church.

- Acts 20:28–31

Overseers are to protect the church.

- 1 Peter 2:25

Overseers help to guide your soul from danger:

- 1. By guiding away from false teachers and doctrine!**
 - Acts 10:28-30
 - Titus 1:9
- 2. By monitoring people's progress through love, live and share.**
- 3. By upholding church discipline.**

Leaders as pastors direct and feed the church.

- Acts 20:28
- Ephesians 4:11–12
- Hebrews 13:17

Bad leadership rots the church, good leadership preserves the church, so let's get the core of leadership right.

sermon discussion

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. What do you think is the most important quality for a church leader? Why?
2. How have the leaders of our church influenced, shaped, and encouraged your faith? Where do you think you would be apart from their influence?
3. **Read Matthew 7:15-16.** What do you think Jesus meant when He said false prophets would “come to you in sheep’s clothing” (v15)? What are some examples of what this looks like in the world today?
4. **Read Acts 20:32.** This week’s message pointed out three specific checks on an elder’s authority in the church: 1) The Word of God, 2) The plurality of elders, and 3) The example of Christ. In what practical ways do you see these checks on leadership work in the church?
5. Has a leader’s failure ever caused you to mistrust the church or doubt your faith?
6. When is it easiest for you to submit to someone in authority over you and when is it most difficult? Why?
7. **Read Hebrews 13:17.** What can you or your group do to support or bring joy to those in spiritual authority over you versus being a burden to them?

As you close today, spend some time praying for the [elders and staff of Olive Branch](#). Pray for spiritual strength and protection for them and their families. Pray for wisdom and discernment as they love and lead our church.

GOING FURTHER

MEMORIZE: *“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?”* **Matthew 7:15-16**

READ: *Christian Beliefs: Twenty Basics Every Christian Should Know* by Wayne Grudem.