



Title: Church Leadership—God's Way

Main Scripture: Acts 14:21-23

God is a God of order.

(1 Cor 14:33, Gen 1:2-3, 2 Pet 3:18)

Godly order in His church.

- **Pastors**
(Eph 4:11-12)

- **Small Groups**

- **Elders**
(Titus 1:5-9, 1 Pet 5:1-4, Act 20:31, Heb 13:17-18, Jam 5:18)

- **Congregants**
(Heb 13:17-18, Ps 5:12, Eph 2:20-22)

HEARTLAND'S CORE VALUES

RESTORING OUR WORLD

We will pursue truth, justice and compassion for all people, integrating faith and action, sharing the hope we have in Jesus whenever and wherever we can.

SERVING OTHERS

We will meet the needs of those in our church and community, giving sacrificially of our time and resources while collaborating with other like-minded partners.

BECOMING † LIKE JESUS

We will follow Jesus, pursuing a life of wholeness in body, mind, and spirit, and helping others to do the same.

CONNECTING IN COMMUNITY

We will know others and be known as we do life together, welcoming one another into meaningful relationships.

ENJOYING GOD'S PRESENCE

We will glorify God in all we do, as we draw near to Him individually and collectively, worshipping Him in spirit and truth.

Church Leadership - God's Way | January 6 & 7, 2024

The Small Group Sermon Study | Acts 14:21-23

Prayer: Father, in Jesus' name, through the Holy Spirit, we invite You to come now and speak to us, teach us, and transform us. We ask that You work in us as we read, discuss, and reflect on Your Word.

Icebreaker:

- Reflecting on Pastor Al's story about refereeing hockey. Have you ever had a time when you felt like you got yourself "in over your head"?

Read Acts 14:21-23 together. From these scriptures and notes from listening to the sermon, discuss the following:

- Take a minute of silence and ask the Holy Spirit to lead your thoughts. Share any thoughts or questions that come to mind from this passage and the sermon.
- What parallels do you see between the order and structure that Jesus desires to bring to our individual lives, and the order and structure that Jesus desires to bring to the Church?
- Read John 17:20-23. What examples come to mind which might reflect Jesus's desire for Christians to be unified?
- What does it look like to follow Godly leadership (pastoral, small group, and elders) in the Church?

Personal Reflection:

- Do you need a heart change today? How will you respond to what God is showing you?
- What do you see as your role at Heartland and in the larger Church?
- Heartland is a church that desires for every Christ Follower to go deeper in relationship with Jesus and to be equipped to grow in living out whatever role God has given them. Do you feel equipped to live out your role in the Church? If not, would you be willing to ask for help from your small group leader or one of the pastors at Heartland?
- What do you need to ponder and continue to reflect on this week (verse, phrase, word, or question)? How will you act on what you've heard? Is there someone you need to talk to about what has been highlighted for you this week?

Prayer: Take some time to lift each other up in prayer and then pray the following: Lord Jesus, we pray that as a small group, and as a church, we would reflect the unity that You have with the Father by the way in which we love and care for each other, and the way we work together to reflect You to those around us. Where there is disunity, we pray for You to lead us into Your peace. Amen.