February 15, 2015

Sermon: To the Elders

Text: 1 Peter 5:1-4

Introduction

I. Why have elders? — the theological answer

II. Why have elders? — the practical answer - 1 Peter 4:12-19; Acts 20:28-31a

III. What do elders do?
- **a. They shepherd - v. 2a**
- **b. They oversee - v. 2b**
- **c. They teach - 1 Timothy 3:2; Acts 20:28-31a**

IV. How are they to do these things? - vv. 2c-3
- **a. Be willing**
- **b. Be a servant**
- **c. Be an example**

Conclusion -
1. **For the elders -- v. 4**
2. **For the church -- Hebrews 13:17; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13**

CORNERSTONE

Bible Based Gospel Centered Discipleship Focused For the Glory of God

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Going Deeper - How you can pray for, and act toward, your elders:

1. Pray through the lists of characteristics found in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9 and ask that God give your elders these things in abundance.
2. Pray through 1 Peter 5:1-5; Acts 20:29-31a and ask God to enable the elders to be the kind of leaders over the church that God wants them to be. Pray that the elders would be willing to serve, rather than seeking power or lordship. Pray that they would be the kind of example that all in the church could follow. Pray that their doctrine and teaching ministry would always be biblically based and gospel centered.
3. Pray through Hebrews 13:17 and ask that God give you the willingness to submit and obey your elders. Pray that your obedience and submission would lead to joy in the elders and to the 'advantage' of the greater body. Then seek practical ways to encourage them.

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