



THE SANCTUARY
FELLOWSHIP

- What is an elder?
 1. Old Testament
 2. Older people
 3. Qualified church leaders
- Many of us have been wronged by church leadership:
 - Let's agree to not lay that down at TSF doorstep
 - Let's agree to do our best to not let that happen at TSF

1 Timothy 3:1-7

1 It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do. 2 An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, 3 not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, peaceable, free from the love of money. 4 He must be one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity 5 (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?), 6 and not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil. 7 And he must have a good reputation with those outside the church, so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

- What is an elder?
 - Not here to “entitle” or “christen” anyone
- We don’t want to use an expressly secular understanding of lead/elder
- We want to recognize the Lord’s work in someone
- God has asked: “How can my church best be lead?”
- God answered: “Elders.”

- God's been clear about who elders are:
 - Ephesians 4; 1 Thessalonians 5; Titus 1; 1 Timothy 3; 1 Timothy 5; Hebrews 13; 1 Peter 5
- Uses words like elder, overseer, bishop, shepherd, teacher, leader
 - All point to the same office; highlighting different aspects and gifts
- The first thing to remember is that all believers are to be maturing

Colossians 3:1; 12-13

1 Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

12 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. 14 Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity. 15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful.

- V. 1 - “If you’ve been raised”—this is for every believer
 - It’s one of the clearest definitions of everyone’s ministry
- It’s the process of growing to look like Christ
- Put on - Ephesians 5; this is the description of what you are to look like/
who you are
- Avoid thinking:
 - About perfection—we are a work in progress
 - About a checklist—it’s becoming, not doing
 - It’s all about you—it’s facilitating others getting to know Christ

- 1 Timothy 3:1 - overseer = episkopos
 - To fix his gaze on; watcher
- There are around 15-17 requirements here; why so many?
 - It's for the protection of the Bride of Christ

- We recognize this kind of work in a man; one who is further down the road than most of us
- We are asking a man to join in the supernatural battle for souls
 - 2 times elders are marked out as targets for the enemy
- What hope do we have to be these kinds of people?
 - Colossians - “raised up with Jesus”—the cross and resurrection are our only hope for a changed heart!

- It's not about perfection





OFFERINGS

Giving back
to God!



The Global Leadership Summit

August 8th–11th

LIVE STREAMING AT TSF



Sanctus Penitas Trip 2017

June 4th–9th

Cost: \$210



Hi5 Kids

GREAT ADVENTURE CAMP

June 12th–17th



VBS Leadership Meeting

May 3rd

A celebratory scene at a graduation ceremony. In the foreground, the silhouettes of several graduates in black gowns and caps are visible against a bright, clear sky. They are in various poses of joy, with arms raised and some holding their caps. Above them, numerous graduation caps are captured mid-air, having been tossed by the graduates. The overall atmosphere is one of triumph and accomplishment.

Senior Appreciation Sunday

May 21st