

THE CHURCH IS LED BY QUALIFIED ELDERS

BIG TRUTH: THE CHURCH IS LED BY QUALIFIED ELDERS

Acts 20:28; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5

BIBLE VERSE: 1 PETER 5:1-3

"So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock."

BIG IDEAS

- Jesus is the chief shepherd.
- Elders exist to lead the church like Jesus.
- The right response to godly leadership is glad-hearted submission.

BIBLE PASSAGE: 1 PETER 5:1-11

UNITE - I AM PART OF A FAMILY

The Unite Year is an exploration of what it means to be united in Christ as the family of God (Romans 12:5). When we are saved, we are given a spirit of adoption as sons (Romans 8:15-16), are made a child of God, and we are also saved into a family- the Church. The Unite Year explores how we are to live as a part of a family, and to live in light of our calling as servants and disciples of Christ. We use our gifts to build up the church as we pursue unity, humility, and gentleness with our brothers and sisters in Christ (Ephesians 4:1-2).

SERIES AIMS



Every student should know that...

- The church is a family.
- The church is given by God.
- The church exists for God.



Every student should feel...

- Thankful for the unique ways God has gifted them and their church.
- Appreciation for the elders and leaders that God has gifted their church.



Every student should strive to...

- Prioritize gathering to worship each week with their church family.
- Learn more about membership in their local church.
- Do something to intentionally serve someone in their church family each week



Every student should want...

- To devote themselves to pursue holiness with their church family.
- To have their lives be marked by love for the church.
- To live in a way that is sacrificial and generous for the good of others and the glory of God

FAMILY WORKOUT:

This week we will ponder how to discuss with our son or daughter what godly leadership is. We will pray with them to gladly submit to the church leadership. We will lead them to practice supporting and submitting to the church leadership.

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Read and meditate on 1 Peter 5:1-11 this week.

As you meditate on these verses ask yourself some of these questions:

- How can you model submitting to godly leadership to your son or daughter? How can you discuss with them what an elder is and why it's important that we support them?
- How can you model praying for your elders to your son or daughter?

Ponder how you can lead your son or daughter to support the leaders of your church. How can you help them understand why we submit to elders and why God has ordained elders to lead the church?



Spend time praying that your son or daughter grows in their understanding of what an elder is and why the church is led by them.

- Pray with your student this week. As you pray with them model praying for the church leadership. Thank God for godly leadership.



Discuss with your son or daughter who the leadership of your church is.

- Help them think of ways they can show support to the church leadership.
- Discuss with your student ways that he or she can show they are gladly submitting to their leadership. Talk through some of the obstacles that keep us from submitting and ways to overcome those obstacles.