

Noble Leadership: Elders in a Biblically Shaped Church

1 Timothy 3:1-7

An overview:

“1 Timothy” is a _____, not a disjointed collection of theological _____. So, we read it (and interpret it) accordingly.

“Elder”, “overseer”, and “pastor” are used _____.

An elder is not a separate class of Christian (_____ v. _____).

He is to be an _____ Christian.

Elders are Biblically _____ (Old Testament)

- 1. Already in place before the Egyptian captivity (Genesis 50:7)
- 2. _____ during the captivity (Exodus 3:16)
- 3. Made _____ under Moses (Exodus 24:1ff)

Elders are Biblically _____ (New Testament)

- 1. Elders were put in place in _____ church (Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5)
- 2. There was a _____ of elder leadership in each location (Acts 20:17)
- 3. They were/are exclusively _____ (1 Timothy 2:12)
- 4. There is a clear distinction between elders and _____. (Philippians 1:1)

Elders are _____ to the church:

- 1. Churches with elders better _____ biblical authority and accountability.
- 2. Churches with elders are better _____ from abusive or immoral leadership.
- 3. Churches with elders are less likely to _____ off into doctrinal error.
- 4. Churches with elders are less likely to do _____ things.
- 5. Churches with elders are better able to lead with _____.
- 6. Churches with elders are better able to solve serious _____.
- 7. Churches with elders are more likely to be stable and _____.
- 8. Churches with elders are better able to experience the giftings and insights of multiple teachers.
- 9. Churches with elders are more comprehensively _____ for.
- 10. Churches with elders are better able to _____ new elders and share them with other churches.

A summary:

- 1) Elders lead by _____.
- 2) Elders labor by _____.
- 3) Elders love by _____.
- 4) Elders live with _____.

A Conclusion:

The Bible teaches that elders are to _____ the Word, set a _____ for the flock, and _____ the affairs of the church (1 Tim. 3:2; 1 Pet. 5:3; 1 Tim. 5:17).

Scripture therefore calls all Christians to _____ and _____ to the leaders of our churches, who in turn are _____ to God for how they lead (Heb. 13:17) and _____ for them (Hebrews 13:18).

What this demands most from the church is _____.

What if I don’t/can’t trust the elders at CBC?

2023 Calvary Missions Conference

We will be holding our first missions conference here at Calvary March 3-5. Our theme for the conference is “Gospel Feet” based on Romans 10:14-15 and we will be hosting our missionaries for this weekend conference. If you plan to attend the Friday night dinner, please RSVP to the church office by Friday, February 24.

Friday, March 3

5-7:30pm Dinner and Opening Service

Saturday, March 4

8:30-12pm Breakfast, Prayer with Missionaries, and Workshops

Sunday, March 5

8am Prayer with Missionaries, Parlor
8:30am Life Group with Missionaries
10am Morning Worship, Steve Chambers, Neighborhood Church, NYC
5pm Evening Worship, Moses O. Odhiambo, Echoes of Mercy Mission, Kenya

Senior Adult Mid-month Worship

Thursday, February 16 | 11am | Sanctuary

One of our elders, Jed Downs, will be preaching the worship service. Lunch will be served in the Fellowship Center immediately following the service.

Calvary Weekday and Calvary Preschool and Kindergarten Now Accepting In-house Registration

In-house registration for current students and Calvary church members is open February 14-28. To enroll, please contact Michelle@Calvarydothan.com or Jaci@Calvarydothan.com.

Women’s Night of Worship

February 26 | 6:15pm | Sanctuary

This Night of Worship will be a time to celebrate all that God has done and will do. Come rejoice with us!

Calvary Kids Upcoming Events

Dad and Kids Campout | February 24-25

Dads, grab your tent and the kids (must be Grades 1-5) as we camp out at the Weatherly/Woodham Farm with an awesome afternoon, evening, and morning of fun. \$20 per family. Register online at calvarydothan.com. Deadline is February 19.

Vacation Bible School | June 5-9

One of the biggest and most fun weeks of the year! Volunteer registration opens in February. Kid registration opens Easter weekend.

Camp Victory | June 12-16

Our Children’s Director, Zach Daniels, is the Camp Pastor for this week at Camp Victory. This is an incredible summer camp experience for kids who have completed Grades 3-5. Register through our website or directly through Camp Victory.

Calvary Kids Volunteer Opportunities

Church family, there are tremendous opportunities to join our team in making disciples among our 1st-5th grade boys and girls.

Life Group | Sundays at 8:30am - Two 1st grade teachers and substitute teachers

Kids Worship | Sundays at 10:00am - Serve on a rotation schedule to help manage and lead this service

If you’re a church member and you are interested in these opportunities, we’d love to have a conversation with you. Email, zach@calvarydothan.com or call/text 334.733.6326.

Invite Your Pastors into Your Life

What’s your relationship like with your pastors? Non-existent? Distant? Cordial? Warm? Now, a follow-up question: who do you think is responsible for improving or investing in that relationship?

I know how a lot of church members would respond to that question: “Of course it’s *their* job!”

Some church members expect their pastors to do all the pursuing and all the follow-up. They’re instinctively supposed to know what’s going on with everyone at all times. But one-way relationships are draining; they’re frustrating. We should aim for something better.

The point of this article is simple: church members should pursue their pastors. And by “pastors,” plural, I mean to suggest that church members should not simply pursue meaningful spiritual contact with their senior pastor or lead pastor, but with the pastors or elders in general (the NT uses the terms interchangeably). To that end, what follows works best in a church where a plurality of elders exists, where multiple men share the load in shepherding the flock. My suggestion is that you prayerfully open up your life to at least one of them, for both your and their spiritual good.

TWO REASONS

1. *You need your pastors.*

Christians often suffer from two common misconceptions. Some Christians think, “All I need is Jesus.” At face value, this sentiment seems to exalt the sufficiency of Christ to care for and strengthen his people. But Christians sometimes use this phrase to reject any pastoral prying. Maybe they shoo their pastors away to keep hiding a secret sin. Maybe the messiness of their problems embarrasses them, so they stiff-arm their shepherds and share their hardships with Jesus and Jesus alone.

When Christians do this, they neglect one of the primary means that Christ established to care for and strengthen them—their church and their elders. Remember, Jesus designed the church to be a people who testify of him and who help each other properly reflect him (Matt. 16:16–18; 18:15–18). But that’s not all. Jesus also gave the church pastors to edify, equip, and encourage the church (Eph. 4:11–12). Pastors are God’s gifts to God’s people to help them grow in godliness. Why would you want to keep such a gift at arm’s length?

So brothers and sisters, tap into this rich resource. Reach out to your pastors and invite them into your life. You need them.

2. *Your pastors need you.*

A pastor should be tied to the people the Lord has given him to lead. That’s why Peter says, “Shepherd the flock of God that is *among you*” (1 Pet 5:2). Pastors are to be *among* their people, involved in their lives, engaged in their experiences.

What does that mean for you? It means that you help your pastors faithfully do their job by inviting them into your life—to weep with you in pain, to rejoice with you through progress, to pray with you in distress, to plead with you when drifting.

These moments remind pastors that God expects them to shepherd sheep throughout the week, not simply pump out sermons on Sundays. But they do more than that. They also encourage your pastors to keep going in ministry, as they see firsthand that their labor is not in vain.

So brothers and sisters, don’t let your pastors live on a ministry island. Let them get to know you, and the Lord’s love for them through you. They need you.

- Omar Johnson, Senior Pastor of Temple Hills Baptist Church in Temple Hills, Maryland

Taken from: <https://www.9marks.org/article/invite-your-pastors-into-your-life/>

I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:

My Decision Today:

☐ I trusted Jesus as Savior.

☐ I’d like to join Calvary Baptist Church.

☐ I believe God is calling me into ministry/mission.

☐ Please have a pastor or elder contact me.

If you would like to speak with someone about one of the items noted above, please visit the Next Steps Kiosk before you leave today.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

☐ Pastors & Prayer Team Only

☐ Churchwide

Connect Card

February 12, 2023

Please complete this tab, tear it off and drop it in an offering plate, or in the boxes by the exits.

- ☐ Please update my information
- ☐ Please contact me about membership

I am a:
☐ First Time Guest ☐ Attender
☐ Member

Name

Address

City

State/Zip

☐ Male ☐ Female

☐ Married ☐ Single

Birthdate (mm/dd/yy)

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Spouse

Spouse's Birthdate (mm/dd/yy)

Children:

Name / Date of Birth

Name / Date of Birth

Name / Date of Birth

Name / Date of Birth

Please complete the additional information on the back of this tab, if applicable.

February 12, 2023

February Missions Spotlight

Jose and Areli Perez (Missioteca)
Missioteca is a collection of missional initiatives dedicated to eradicating theological famine in the Global South. The mission work of Jose and Areli thru Missioteca involves walking alongside local churches in Guatemala to help them become healthy churches. If you would like to know more about the mission work of Missioteca or the Perez family, you can visit missioteca.org or email Jose at jose@missioteca.org.

Also, if you would like to know how to pray for the Perez's, please pick up a prayer card at the mission's kiosk in the Fellowship Center Foyer.

Alabama Baptist Children's Homes & Family Ministries (Local Missions Partner)
The purpose of Alabama Baptist Children's Homes & Family Ministries is to protect, nurture, and restore children and families through Christ-centered services. The result we desire to see hope and wholeness for children and families through knowing God. If you would like to know more about the ministry work of ABCH, you can contact Kim McGainey at kmcgainey@alabamachild.org or visit facebook.com/alabamachild/ or alabamachild.org.

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901 Montezuma Avenue
Dothan, AL 36303
Church Office 334.792.5159
Weekday Ministry 334.793.9898

FIRST TIME GUEST?

We're so glad you've joined us for worship today and would love to be able to share more with you about our church. Please fill out the Connect Card to the left and place it in one of the offering plates when they are passed. Be sure to stop by our Next Steps kiosk after the service for a gift from us!

THE PEOPLE CAME...

February 5
Life Group: 485
10:00 Worship: 613
5:00 Worship: 187
Hispanic Church: 124
Neighborhood Church (NY): 30

THE PEOPLE GAVE...

General Fund
Given February 5: \$50,329.79
Y-T-D Budget
Surplus (Deficit): \$41,191.30

5-DAY BIBLE READING PROGRAM

Week 7, February 12-18
☐ Exodus 32-34; Philippians 3
☐ Exodus 35-37; Psalm 26; Philippians 4
☐ Exodus 38-40; Hebrews 1
☐ Leviticus 1-3; Psalm 27; Hebrews 2
☐ Leviticus 4-7; Hebrews 3

Midweek Schedule

6:00pm Midweek Worship, Fellowship Ctr
Preschool, Birth-K5, Preschool Building
Children, Grades 1-5, Kids Worship Room
Students, Grades 6-12, Student Room
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room



I'm New Here

To fill out a digital Connect Card or learn more about Calvary, please use your smartphone camera to scan the QR Code.

How to Become a Christian

Want more information about how to become a Christian? Go to calvarydothan.com/how-to-become-a-christian/.

If you would like to view a pdf of today's sermon notes, go to calvarydothan.com/messages.

Ministry Staff

Paul Thompson.....Senior Pastor
Charles Uptain.....Executive Pastor
Dan Tankersley.....Discipleship
Patrick Lima.....Worship
Tommy Perry.....Missions

STAFF ON CALL

Sunday, February 12:
Reagan Farris | 504-319-6986
Saturday, February 18:
Joyce Alexander | 334-798-4791
Sunday, February 19:
Joyce Alexander | 334-798-4791

SERMON SCHEDULE

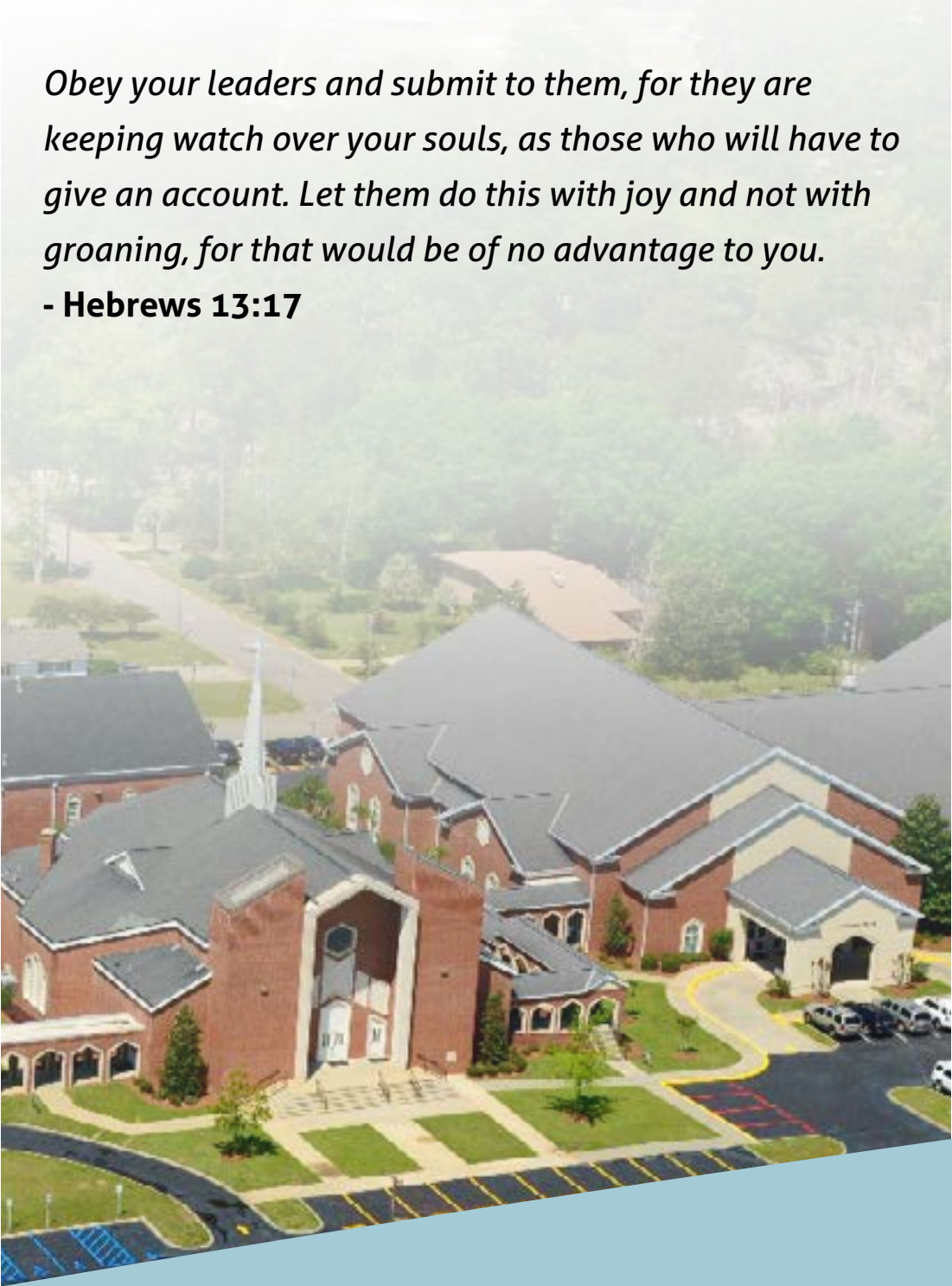
Wednesday, February 15 | 6pm
The Law and Life
Exodus 21, 22 & 23
Message by Dan Tankersley

Sunday, February 19 | 10am

Worthy Servants: Deacons in a Biblically Shaped Church
1 Timothy 3: 8-13
Message by Charles Uptain

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:00am Call to Prayer, Parlor
8:30am Life Group
10:00am Worship, Fellowship Center
Kid's Worship, Grades 1-5, Chapel (except 1st Sunday)
11:00am Worship Broadcast on JoyFM 94.3/96.1 with a 1 wk delay.



Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

- Hebrews 13:17

WELCOME TO
Calvary
BAPTIST CHURCH