The Normal Christian Life is an Answerable Life

Titus 1:5-15

⁵ This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you— 6 if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. 7 For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, 8 but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. ⁹ He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

¹⁰ For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party. 11 They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach. 12 One of the Cretans, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy qluttons." 13 This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, 14 not devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people who turn away from the truth. 15 To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled. 16 They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

The Necessity and Normalcy of a Plurality of Elders

"... put what remained in order ..."

"... elders (plural) in every town (singular) ..."

The requirement of "blamelessness"

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Why "put in order" with "above reproach" elders?

"For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers ..." (v. 10)

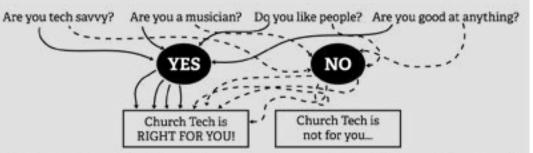
5 things every healthy Christian needs (but too many Christians seem to resist):

1)	-
2)	
3)	
4)	
And sometimes	
5)	

All for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness, in hope of eternal life!

(From Titus 1:1-2)

Dr. Paul Thompson Calvary Baptist Church June 11, 2023



Join the Tech Team today! Free training, no experience required and it comes with an eternal reward! More info? email us at justin@calvarydothan.com or patrick@calvarydothan.com

Senior Adult VBS

Thursday, June 15 and Friday, June 16 | 9am-12noon | Room R300 in the ROC All senior adults are invited for Bible study, fellowship, and fun.



■ ★★★ ■ American Red Cross Blood Drive Wednesday, June 21 | 2-6pm | Parlor

Be the lifeline patients need by giving blood. To make an appointment to donate, use the QR code or visit <u>redcrossblood.org</u>.

Summer at Calvary - Midweek

Midweek Bible Study, Sanctuary

Birth-K5, Preschool Building Grades 1-5, Kids Worship Room

NO Kids activities on campus on June 14 due to Kids Camp

Grades 6-12, Student Room

Summer at Calvary - Sundays

Call to Prayer, Parlor

8:30am Life Group & Open Classes

No Life Group & Open Classes on July 2

10am Worship, Fellowship Center

Kids Worship, Grades 1-5, Kids Worship Room (except 1st Sunday)

No Kids Worship in July

No Sunday Night Family Worship on July 2

Sunday, July 23 - Family Night at Water World | 5:30-7:30pm | \$5 per person

Open Classes Summer Schedule Began June 4 | 8:30 am

Opening assembly will be in the Sanctuary each week and classes will meet below the Sanctuary. Open classes will not meet on July 2.

Meaningful Membership: A required membership class Taught by multiple staff members & elders | 4 weeks

Systematic Theology Part 2: Building a framework for knowing God and His creation

Taught by Paul Thompson, Charles Uptain, & Dave Lindey | 12 weeks

Old Testament Overview Part 2: A 30,000 ft. view of the books of the Old Testament Taught by Dan Tankersley & Tommy Perry | 12 weeks

Meeting with God: Basic Disiplines of the Christian Life

Taught by Tyler Campbell & David Glover | 5 weeks beginning June 4

Fear of Man: Fear God rather than people

Taught by Tyler Campbell & David Glover | 7 weeks beginning July 16

Apologetics: Reasons for belief

Taught by Eric Donop & John Adams Uptain

What is the Nature of Pastoral Authority? — A Baptist Perspective (Condensed)

By Benjamin Merkle

First, it's clear in Scripture pastors have authority. Believers are expected to "respect," "honor," "obey," "submit," and "be subject to" those who "labor," "are over," "admonish," "rule," "preach," "teach," "care for," keep watch," or "devote" themselves to the work of the gospel ministry as those who will "give an account" for the tasks entrusted to them (1 Cor. 16:15-16; 1 Thess. 5:12; 1 Tim. 3:4–5; 5:17; Heb. 13:17; 1 Peter 5:5).

The primary duties of pastors also communicate the fact of their authority. As teachers, they're charged with the task of proclaiming God's Word authoritatively. They're not merely offering suggestions or voicing their own opinions but are declaring, "Thus says the Lord." Consequently, the congregation has the duty to obey not merely the words of the pastor, but the words of God, insofar as the pastor accurately and faithfully conveys the gospel message. As shepherds, pastors are given the task of leading and caring for God's people (Acts 20:28; Eph. 4:11; 1 Peter 5:2). If some are leading as shepherds, the assumption is others are following their leadership. Finally, as representatives, they speak and act on behalf of the entire congregation (Acts 11:30; 20:17).

Second, the authority of pastors is derived: it comes from God (not the congregation). Although the congregation affirms their calling and authority, it's an authority with divine origin. Paul tells the Ephesians elders the Holy Spirit made them overseers (Acts 20:28) and later indicates leaders are gifts given by Jesus to the church

Third, the authority of pastors is limited in at least three

- (1) It's limited by the Scriptures. Pastors do not have absolute authority because they stand under the authority of God and his Word. Therefore, when they stray from the Word, they abandon their God-given authority.
- (2) It's limited by the nature of shared leadership. The biblical example of church government is not to set up an aristocracy or an oligarchy, but each local congregation should have a plurality of pastors/elders. There's no example in the New Testament where one pastor (elder) leads a congregation as the sole or primary leader.
- (3) It's limited to their congregation. That is, the authority of a pastor does not exceed beyond the local church. There's no evidence in the New Testament that pastors exercised authority outside their congregation similar to that of the apostles.
- (4) It's limited by the congregation. Congregations were involved in choosing new leaders (Acts 6:2-3), commissioning missionaries (Acts 13:3), making important theological decisions (Acts 15:22), and disciplining unrepentant church members (Matt. 18:17; 1 Cor. 5:2; 2 Cor. 2:6). In addition, Paul always addressed the entire congregation rather than the leaders of the church (Rom. 1:7; 1 Cor. 1:2; 2 Cor. 1:1; Gal. 1:2; Eph. 1:1; Phil. 1:1; Col. 1:2; 1 Thess. 1:1; 2 Thess. 1:1).

Consequently, pastors must be those who are filled with the Holy Spirit and exhibit a spirit of humility in their relations with others. As Jesus declared, "But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all" (Mark 10:43-44).

Benjamin Merkle is a professor of New Testament and Greek at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

You can read the entire article here: https://www.9marks. org/article/what-is-the-nature-of-pastoral-authorityperspectives-from-a-methodist-a-presbyterian-and-abaptist/

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My	Decision Today:
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	'd like to join Calvary Bapt Church.
	believe God is calling me nto ministry/mission.
	Please have a pastor or eld contact me.
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- C	hurchwide

Connect Card

June 11, 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
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☐ First Time Guest	☐ Attender
□ Member	

Name		
Address	 	
Address		

State/7in	

City

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Birthdate (mm/dd/yy)

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Spouse

Spouse's Birthdate (mm/dd/yy)

Children:

Name / Date of Birth

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

June 11, 2023

June Missions Spotlight

Joe and Andi Carroll (Global Missions Partner)

The Carrolls seek to serve the members of Erbil Baptist Church by encouraging them to be bold in their witness and have wisdom to seek the salvation of their family, friends, and neighbors. They are also working towards the planting of a Kurdish-speaking church in this region as well as starting a school to open this Fall. If you would like to learn more about the ministry work of Joe and Andi you can visit erbilbaptist.church. If you would like to know how to pray for the Carrolls, please pick up a prayer card at the mission's kiosk in the FC foyer.

Dare to Hope (Local Missions Partner)

Dare to Hope is a ministry bringing the hope of Jesus Christ to women who are hurting and hopeless due to exploitation. They serve those who are at risk of exploitation and exist to provide spiritual and emotional support as well as practical solutions that foster healing and wholeness for women leading them from vulnerability to stability. If you would like to learn more about the ministry work of Dare to Hope you can visit <u>daretohope.net.</u> Prayer needs can be found on prayer cards at the mission's kiosk in the FC fover.



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

June 4 Life Group: 513 10:00 Worship: 685

THE PEOPLE CAME...

Hispanic Church: 150 Neighborhood Church (NY): 25

THE PEOPLE GAVE... **General Fund**

Given June 4: \$52,729.99 Y-T-D Budget

Surplus (Deficit): \$11,554.24 Annie Armstrong Y-T-D: \$37,230

5-DAY BIBLE READING PROGRAM Week 24, June 11-17

- O Proverbs 16-18; Romans 15 O Proverbs 19-21; Psalm 40; Romans 16
- O Proverbs 22-23; Psalm 117; 1 Thess 1 O Proverbs 24-25; Psalm 41; 1 Thess 2
- O Proverbs 26-28; 1 Thess 3

STAFF ON CALL Sunday, June 11:

Reagan Farris | 504-319-6986 Saturday, June 17:

Joyce Alexander | 334-798-4791 Sunday, June 18:

Joyce Alexander | 334-798-4791

SERMON SCHEDULE

Wednesday, June 14 | 10am

Worship and Generosity

Exodus 35

Message by Dave Lindey

Sunday, June 18 | 10am

The Normal Christian Life Is A Sensible Life

Titus 2:1-10

Message by Paul Thompson

Midweek Schedule

6:00pm Midweek Worship, Sanctuary Preschool, Birth-K5, Preschool

Building

Children, Grades 1-5, Kids

Worship Room

Students, Grades 6-12, Student

Room

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.

I'm New Here



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.

To fill out a digital Connect Card or learn more about Calvary, please use your smartphone camera to scan the QR Code or you can fill out the Connect Card in this bulletin and place it in the offering plate or in one

of the offering boxes when you exit the Fellowship Center.

Also, be sure to stop by our Next Steps table after the service for a gift from us!

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

Senior Pasto
Executive Pasto
Discipleshi
Worshi
Missior

Joyce Alexander Preschool Zach Daniels... ..Children Reagan Farris...... .StudentsSenior Adults Randy Hunt....

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



