

Role of Elders

“Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers (elders). Be shepherds (pastors) of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.” Acts 20:28

At Sanctuary, Elders serve under the headship of Christ and are the ultimate authority for the church. The Elders are tasked with leading and governing the affairs of the church, the staff is empowered to lead the day-to-day ministry, and the Stewardship Team provides advice. Below is an outline of the specific responsibilities, requirements, and time commitments required of Sanctuary’s Elders.

Responsibilities

The Elders at Sanctuary have four primary responsibilities as found in Scripture:

- *Lead* Under the Authority of Christ (Colossians 1:18)
- *Model* Christlikeness for the Church (1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9)
- *Care* for the Body of Christ (1 Peter 5:1-3)
- *Teach* and Guard the Word of Christ (Titus 1:9)

Lead Under the Authority of Christ

- Oversee the affairs and direction of the church to ensure that we are faithful to the vision, mission, and beliefs of Sanctuary.
- Provide spiritual oversight by guarding against false doctrine and ensuring that Sanctuary remains anchored to Biblical truth.
- Actively engage in various ministries of the church and provide support and encouragement.
- Provide accountability and encouragement to the staff.

Model Christlikeness for Church

- Meet the Biblical requirements as outlined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9
- Live in such a way that demonstrates an ongoing growth in the grace and knowledge of Christ.
- Lead by example through serving, giving, and living in Christ-centered community.

Care for the Body of Christ

- Pastor and shepherd the body using Psalm 23 as a guide.
- Gather to pray for those in the church who are sick.
- Be personally available to minister to the individual needs within the body by providing guidance, assistance, and encouragement.
- Participate in the Biblical process of conflict resolution found in Matthew 18.
- Respond to questions/concerns voiced by those in the church.

Teach the Word of Christ

- Have a deep knowledge of the Word and be able to communicate the Word effectively.
- Be prepared to teach God’s Word in a variety of settings.
- Ensure that all teaching at Sanctuary is in alignment with our beliefs and core Biblical doctrine.