

1 Peter 5:1-4

Challenge/Encouragement for Leaders in the Local Church...
...and for Everyone in the Local Church

According to the Washington Post

Evangelical Christians are Backward, Uneducated and...
...Easily Led???

According to the Word of God

Evangelical Christians Should be Cultural Leaders as Spiritual Salt/Light and...
...Easily Led!!!

Elders are to Serve Well Now in the Local Church 5:1-3

1: The Teacher Identified v1

Peter, the human author of this book (an Apostles) was a "Fellow-Elder"

Four Key Things to Know about Elders in the Local Church

Principle: a group leaders over the church-no ONE PERSON has veto power

Position: one role/two functions: (a) authority-prebuteros (b) oversight-episkopos

Pastor: should be an Elder/the Teaching-Elder but should not be THE Elder

Principle: hould model the normative characteristics of stable spiritually maturity over time...that can/should be true for all believers in the local church

2: The Teachees Instructed v2-3

1: Elders are to Lead/Oversee the Church WILLINGLY v2a
Not under compulsion but voluntarily

2: Elders are to Lead/Oversee the Church GIVINGLY v2b
Not to get but to give

3: Elders are to Lead/Oversee the Church SERVINGLY v3
Not as lord over the local church but as servant leaders

Elders Who Serve Well Now in the Local Church Will Receive Special Reward from the Lord of the Church 5:4

Three Key Things to Know about Crowns in the New Testament

1: Crowns in the Bible, like medals in the military are given “according to works” (“wages” not “free gifts”)...and should be an encouragement when we are “under fire.”

2: One English word, two Greek words a: a diadema is a royal crown, it speaks to rank. Only 1 Person wears a diadema in the NT b: stephanos is a victor’s crown, it speaks of excellence. Only believers who serve “above and beyond the call of duty” will wear one.

3: Representative NT Crowns

The Crown of Life-to believers who keep the faith under intense suffering

The Incorruptible Crown-to believers who excel to the end of life

The Crown of Glory-to Elders who serve well in the local church

The Crown of Righteousness-to believers who live +R as they long for Christ’s

This passage is NOT just for Dale, Homer, David, Ron and Brad as Elders serving/supervising TBF. It is for EVERY believer at TBF because the attitudes and character of Elders as described in the New Testament are to be the attitudes and character of every spiritually mature believer.

All of Us (Not Just Elders) Should Regularly Ask Ourselves These Questions

- 1: Do I attend/involve myself in TBF because I have to (obligation) or because I want to/get to (opportunity)?
1.....2.....3.....4.....5.....6.....7.....8.....9.....10
- 2: Do I attend/involve myself in TBF because Primarily to get or to give?
1.....2.....3.....4.....5.....6.....7.....8.....9.....10
- 3: Do I attend/involve myself in TBF because As a consumer/critic or as a contributor/servant honoring my Savior?
1.....2.....3.....4.....5.....6.....7.....8.....9.....10

Final Question for ALL of Us EXCEPT the Elders

- Am I “easily led” (ala Hebrews 13:17 not the Washington Post)
- 1.....2.....3.....4.....5.....6.....7.....8.....9.....10