

**Lessons In Leadership**  
**“The Work, Attitude and Reward of Elders”**  
**1 Peter 5:1-4 (page 842)**

**Sunday, August 9, 2009**

**Frank Mascaro**

The basic *responsibility* of the elders is the **pastoral oversight** of the local church (1 Pet 5:1-2a; Prov 27:23)

That includes:

- Maintaining doctrinal purity – leading and feeding
  - √ Teaching Biblical truth (1 Tim 3:2, 4:1-5; Tit 1:9)
  - √ Refuting false teachers (Acts 20:30-31; Tit 1:9)
- Prayer – care and intercession
  - √ Pray for the sick (Jas 5:13-16)
  - √ Pray for needs and guidance (Phil 4:6-7; Col 4:2; 1 Pet 4:7; 1 Tim 2:1-3)
- Discipline – protection and holiness
  - √ Warn the rebellious (1 Thess 5:12-15; 2 Thess 3:15; Tit 3:10-11)
  - √ Act to protect the church and restore the sinning individual (1 Cor 5:1-13; Matt 18:15-17; Gal 6:1-2)
- Financial Concerns – provision and oversight
  - √ Distributing funds to the needy (Acts 11:30)
  - √ Managing funds for ministry in the church (2 Cor 8:16-24)

Elders are to exercise oversight of the flock with an **attitude** that involves:

- Right motivation: because he is willing (1 Pet 5:2b)
  - √ An elder is not one that has been forced to serve, but serves willingly. (cf 2 Cor 8:10-12)
- Right goals: because he is eager to serve (1 Pet 5:2c)
  - √ An elder does not serve for personal gain, but serves with eager devotion (Phil 2:3; 1 Tim 6:3-6; Tit 1:7)
- Right methods: because he models servanthood (1 Pet 5:3)
  - √ An elder is not domineering over the flock, but leads by good example (Lk 22:25-27)

Elders are to serve with a **long-range** view that includes:

- The awareness that they are men under authority (1 Pet 5:4a)
- Sharing in the glory of the *Chief Shepherd* for faithful oversight of *His* flock (1 Pet 5:4b)