

EPISODE: 321

TITLE: **Are Your Church Elders Really Deacons? (And Vice Versa)**

A lot of men called elders in the Church today are not functioning as biblical elders. Maybe what they are actually doing is a lot closer to the work of the deacons?

Here are three key things to believe and consider about being overseers of the Church...

1. **The work of the gospel and making disciples is the mission of the church and our elders, our overseers should be our prime examples.** If you're currently identified as an elder in the Church, are you living a life worth imitating? Do people, believers, and not-yet-believers, have access to your everyday life, marriage, and parenting? Would they grow in grace and maturity as disciples by your example and learn how to in turn make more disciples of Jesus? Elder people—not programs!
2. **Elders in the Church, Jesus' family, are overseer's not over-lords.** You are to be shepherds among your flock. Caring for people, feeding them, guiding them. Our twisted understanding of a top-down form of leadership that comes from the world was warned against. Elders in the early Church were not holed up in a weekly or monthly meeting deciding what was best for everyone else. They were not replacing the role of the Holy Spirit in the Church.
3. **If you're on an elder board, serving as an elder, and you think that changes need to be made in how you lead together,** please don't shrink back from this calling, for the Bible says that you'll be asked to give an account of how you served and did your work. (Hebrews 13:17). Humble yourself. Step down if you need to learn and grow in the gospel and the making of disciples of Jesus. Don't cling to titles, authority, or your pride. God will bless you and your church and you'll see a fresh releasing of the priesthood of all believers out on mission. Hopefully, ultimately, led by you!

If you like to learn more about coaching and mentorship with Caesar and his wife, Tina, and learn to live a lifestyle of discipleship and mission, new cohorts are beginning soon.

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Thanks for listening... I'll see you in the next episode!

Caesar