

The Importance of Relationships

from a Biblical perspective





Questions:

- What type of relationships are there within a Church?
- What are our responsibilities within those relationships?
- Why are relationships in the Church really important?

Church

To Authorities

- God's Word says to obey them that have the rule over you. So who in the Church, other than your parents would that be? Heb 13:17
- The first one you should think of is the pastor; also referred to as bishop and shepherd in the Bible.
- Their main duties involve:
 - Jer 3:15 And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding. Jesus charged Peter to "feed my sheep".
 - 1Ti 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine

To Authorities

- What other authorities are there within the Church?
 - Elders: mature Christians that help in decision making processes. In Proverbs we find that purposes are established and there's safety in a multitude of counsellors
 - Elders are mentioned both in the OT and NT.
 - Deacons: Servants chosen to help minister to the needs of those within the Church
 - It's recorded in Acts that they needed men to help serve the Gentile windows and were asked to choose seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom
 - A new role specifically needed in the NT Church so the pastor could tend to his main duties
 - Teachers: i.e. Bible Study/Sunday School teachers
 - A gift (ability) that God has given to someone for the edification of the those they are teaching.
 - If you teach, do your very best and study to show ourselves approved.

To the Church as a Whole

- Remember: We work together as one body, each member employing different gifts (abilities) to help fulfill the mission of The Church
 - We're a body and "as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ." 1Co 12:12
 - Why? For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Eph 4:12
 - In order to work effectively as a body we need to:
 - Obey those that rule over you - 1Th 5:12-13, Heb 13:17
 - Encourage one another - 1Th 5:11
 - Help and serve each other - 1Th 5:14-15, 1Ti 5:16, Jam 1:27, Gal 5:13
 - Pray for one another - 1Th 5:17, Rom 15:30, Jam 5:16
 - Address grievances and forgive – Luk 17:3, Mat 18:15-17, 1Co 6:1-4
 - Love one another - John 13:34-35, 1 Pt 1:22, 1Jo 3:14
 - Support the work of the Church – Heb 10:25, Eph 4:12, Phi 1:9–10, Mat 28:18–20, 2Ti 2:15, 1Pt 3:15, Act 2:42



The Mission of the Church

- It's very important to understand what the mission of the Church is to fully know your role:
 - Preach The Word
 - Pray
 - for each other, our leaders, and the lost
 - Give
 - Win Souls
 - Teach
 - Baptize
- Challenge
 - See if you can find two Bible verses that cover each point



The Mission of the Church

ANSWERS

- **Preach:** 1Ti 4:2
- **Pray:** Luk 11:1-4; 1Th 5:17; Mat 9:38, 21:13; Luk 6:28, 22:40; 1Ti 2:8; 2Th 3:1; Jam 5:14; Mar 14:38; Luk 21:36; 1Ti 2:1-2
- **Give:** Luk 6:38,
- **Win Souls:** Mat 28:18–20
- **Teach:** 1 Timothy 4:11, Mat 28:19, Heb 5:12
- **Baptize:** Mat 28:19, Act 2:41

In doing these things we'll glorify God

Summary

- What we've learned
 - What type of relationships are there within a Church?
 - What our responsibilities within those relationships are?
- So why are these relationships in the Church important?
 - To maintain a healthy working Church that is focused on honouring God and fulfilling our mission.



- I hope you gained a better understanding. Let's be diligent to see God glorified, people saved, and helping others.
- Next week will be the last lesson focusing on relationships toward Government