

THE LOCAL CHURCH WITH HER COLLEGIATE LEADERSHIP

1 Tim 3:15 but in case I am delayed, *I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.*

A college does not just symbolize plurality, but a persons having common interests or corporate functions.

The ruling elder or lone pastor must give way to the headship of Christ and collegiate leadership. It is easier to invest leadership in a one man personality than leadership by principle of the New Testament. It is not easy to teach a leadership, but the local church must be ruled by principle and not by powerful personalities, popular psychology and professional music.

I. The Collegiate Leadership is Mutually Gifted.

A. Gifted men given by Christ.

Eph 4:8-11 Therefore it says, "WHEN HE ASCENDED ON HIGH, HE LED CAPTIVE A HOST OF CAPTIVES, AND HE GAVE GIFTS TO MEN." (9) (Now this *expression*, "He ascended," what does it mean except that He also had descended into the lower parts of the earth? (10) He who descended is Himself also He who ascended far above all the heavens, so that He might fill all things.) (11) And He gave some *as* apostles, and some *as* prophets, and some *as* evangelists, and some *as* pastors and teachers,

II. The Collegiate Leadership Has a Mutual Ministry.

A. A ministry of perfecting or equipping the Saints.

1. For ministry. **Eph 4:12** for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;
2. For edification of the body. **Eph 4:12**
3. For growth of the body. **Eph 4:16** from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

III. The Collegiate Leadership Has a Mutual Function.

A. Elders guard, feed, oversee and watch the body. **Acts 20:17-35**

B. Elders feed, oversee and are an example. **1 Pet 5:2-3** shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to *the will of God*; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; (3) nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock.

C. The Evangelist:

1. Guards. **2 Tim 3:14** You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*,
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IV. The Collegiate Leadership is Mutually Accountable.

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3. Oversees. **1 Tim 5:9-10** A widow is to be put on the list only if she is not less than sixty years old, *having been* the wife of one man, (10) having a reputation for good works; *and* if she has brought up children, if she has shown hospitality to strangers, if she has washed the saints' feet, if she has assisted those in distress, *and* if she has devoted herself to every good work.

4. Is an example. **1 Tim 4:12** Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but *rather* in speech, conduct, love, faith *and* purity, show yourself an example of those who believe. **Titus 2:7-8** in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, *with* purity in doctrine, dignified, (8) sound *in* speech which is beyond reproach, so that the opponent will be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us.

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