



# THE CHURCH

THE PILLAR & FOUNDATION OF THE TRUTH

# Elders & Deacons

(1 Timothy 3:1-13)

1. God's Servant-Leader Structure for His Church
2. What Elders & Deacons Do
3. What Elders & Deacons Look Like
4. How, What & Who Here at FBC
5. Conclusion

A stylized sunburst graphic with numerous thin, dark purple lines radiating from a central point, creating a starburst effect behind the text.

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# God's Servant-Leader Structure for His Church

- Old Testament Origins
  - Exodus 3:16; Numbers 11:14-17
- Jewish Leaders in the Time of Jesus and Thereafter
  - Matthew 27:1; Acts 4:5-7
- In the Church
  - Acts 6 (prototype); Acts 11:29-30; 14:23; 15:2



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# What Elders & Deacons Do

- Elders
  - presbyteros/older, episkopos (bishop)/overseer or guardian, poimēn (pastor)/shepherd
- Deacons
  - diakonos/servant, diakonia/service, diakoneō/to serve



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# What Elders & Deacons Do

- Elders
  - Protect the sheep from those who would damage the flock with divisive false teaching (Acts 20:28)
  - Have charge over the flock, but not as overlords since this authority is in the Lord (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13)
  - Instruct the body in Biblical truth (1 Timothy 5:17)
  - Lead the body in God's direction and obedient practice, doing so as examples in Godly conduct (Hebrews 13:7)



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# What Elders & Deacons Do

- Elders
  - Keep watch over the souls of the people in their charge to ultimately give an account to God (Hebrews 13:17)
  - Pray for the body and its members, including particularly those who are sick and anointing them with oil (James 5:14-16)
  - Shepherd the flock by exercising oversight voluntarily and eagerly (1 Peter 5:1-5)



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# What Elders & Deacons Look Like

Qualified

Characterized



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