

“To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the **overseers** and **deacons**.” (Php. 1:1)
 “If anyone aspires to the office of **overseer**, ... **Deacons** likewise must be ...” (1 Tim. 3:1, 8)

ELDERS (AKA PASTORS/OVERSEERS*)

*from the Greek episkopos,
translated as “bishop” in the KJV

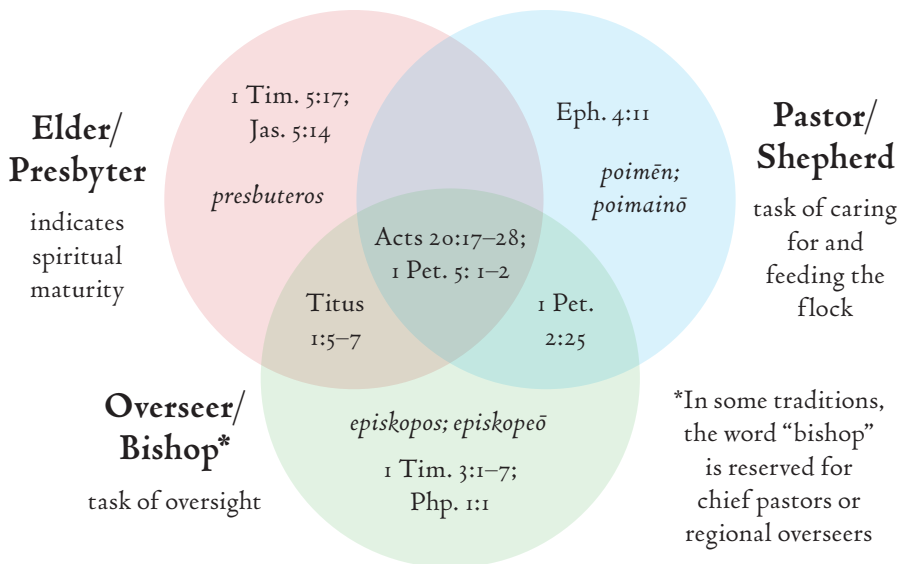
A Plurality of Elders with a Chief Pastor



“call for the elders [plural] of the church” (Jas. 5:14; cf. Acts 20:17; Php. 1:1; Titus 1:5)

Paul addresses Timothy as chief pastor in Ephesus (1 Tim. 1:2)

THREE TERMS FOR ONE OFFICE



DUTIES:

- Govern the church
- Provide spiritual oversight
- Teach and preach
- 1 Tim. 4:16; 5:17; 2 Tim. 4:2; 1 Pet. 5:2

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Mature, blameless character
- “Able to teach”
- 1 Tim. 3:1–7; Titus 1:5–9

APPOINTMENT:

- Tested first; not a quick process (1 Tim. 5:22; cf. 1 Tim. 3:10)
- Ordained with the laying on of hands (1 Tim. 4:14; cf. Acts 6:6)

DEACONS

*from diakonos, the Greek word for “servant”;
deacons are ordained, exemplary servants



A Plurality of Deacons Serving Under the Elders

Php. 1:1, “deacons” [plural]; cf., Acts 6:3; e.g., Rom. 16:1



DUTIES:

- Assist the elders (Acts 6:1–7)
- Care for church’s temporal needs
- Labor as a servant of those in need

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Mature, blameless, wise
- 1 Tim. 3:8–13; Acts 6:3

APPOINTMENT:

- Tested first (1 Tim. 3:10)
- Ordained (Acts 6:6)

