

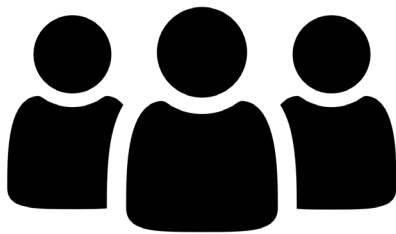
TWO OFFICES IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

“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 (ALSO CALLED PASTORS & OVERSEERS*)

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

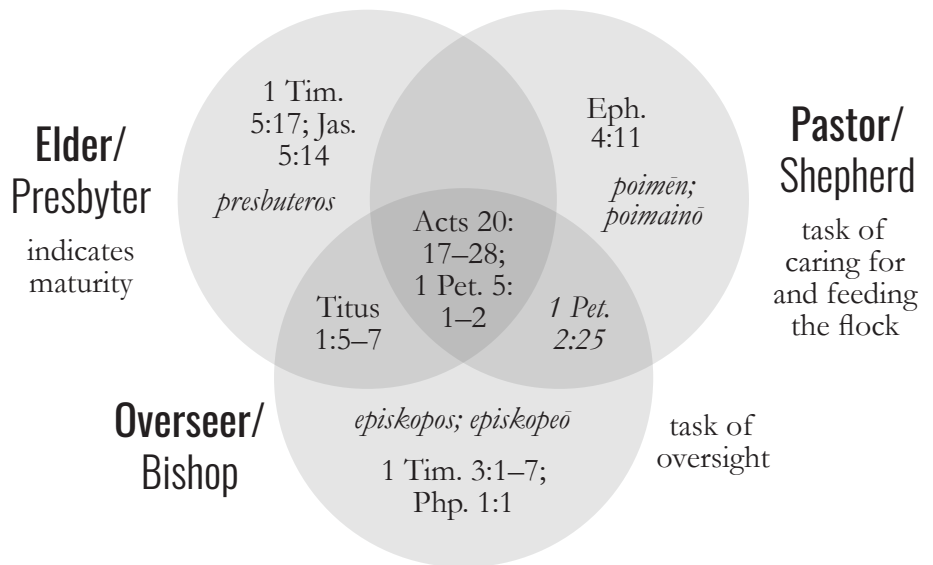
A PLURALITY OF ELDERS WITH A SENIOR PASTOR



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

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

THREE TERMS FOR ONE OFFICE



DUTIES:

- “Rule” the church
- Spiritual oversight
- Teaching & preaching
- E.g., 1 Tim. 5:17; 1 Pet. 5:2; 2 Tim. 4:2; 1 Tim. 4:16

QUALIFICATIONS:

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

APPOINTMENT:

- Tested first; not a quick process (1 Tim. 5:22; cf. 1 Tim. 3:10)
- Ordination (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
- Care for church’s practical needs
- See Acts 6:1–7

QUALIFICATIONS:

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

APPOINTMENT:

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