

## WHY HAVE MULTIPLE CHURCH ELDERS?

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### WHY EVEN CARE AT ALL?

#### A dangerous assumption:

- Church leaders are obligated to take a close interest in their people, but their people have no obligation to take a close interest in their leaders.

#### We really ought to care about church leadership (eldership) because...

- God has something to say about it (1 Tim 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9)
  - It matters (probably) a lot more than we know (Titus 1:7)
  - God calls us to submit to our leaders (Heb 13:17)
  - God calls us to remove them if they preach a false gospel (Gal 1:6-9)
  - Praying for them is modelled in the New Testament (Heb 13:18)
  - If anyone aspires to the office of elder he desires a noble task (1 Tim 3:1)
  - We need to know how to identify a qualified and faithful elder.
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### WHY HAVE CHURCH ELDERS?

- The sheep gotta eat (John 21:15-17, Acts 6:1-4, 1 Tim 3:2, 2 Tim 2:2, 4:2)
  - The flock needs care (Acts 20:28, 1 Peter 5:1-3)
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### WHY HAVE MORE THAN ONE OF THEM?

- Plural elders is biblical (Deut 1:9-18, Exod 18:1-27, Titus 1:5, James 5:14)
- God has already appointed Christ as the church's singular head, shepherd and overseer (Eph 1:15-23, Col 1:18, 1 Pet 2:24-25)

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