

**RELATIONSHIP STATUS (PT. 2)**  
**1 TIMOTHY 5:17-25**  
**7-9-23**

**How do we relate to the leadership of the Church?**

**I. HONOR GOOD ELDERS (v. 17-18)**

*“Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, ‘You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain,’ and, ‘The laborer deserves his wages.’” – 1 Timothy 5:17-18*

- 1. What Elders do?** – Teach and Rule
- 2. What Elders deserve?** – Double honor

**II. DISCIPLINE BAD ELDERS (v. 19-21)**

- 1. Protection** – For false accusations

*“Do not admit a charge against an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses.” – 1 Timothy 5:19*

- 2. Punishment** – For disqualifying actions

*“As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest may stand in fear.” – 1 Timothy 5:20*

- 3. Partiality**

*“In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of the elect angels I charge you to keep these rules without prejudging, doing nothing from partiality.” – 1 Timothy 5:21*

**III. ORDAIN ELDERS WITH CHARACTER (v. 22-25)**

*“Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, nor take part in the sins of others; keep yourself pure. (No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.) The sins of some people are conspicuous, going before them to judgment, but the sins of others appear later. So also good works are conspicuous, and even those that are not cannot remain hidden.” – 1 Timothy 5:22-25*

- 1. Don’t be hasty**
- 2. Observe**

## **GROWING DEEPER THIS WEEK**

1. What was one thing that stood out to you from the message this week? What challenged your thinking?
2. Many people see the church as a business. Should the church be viewed as a business with business terms and practices? Why or why not?
3. How could viewing the church as a business hinder its effectiveness?
4. Based upon our study thus far in 1 Timothy, what would an Elder who rules well look like? What would be some of his character qualities?

READ HEBREWS 13:7, 17

5. Based upon these verses why would a Pastor/Elder be someone to be shown respect?
6. When done well and in the right context, what could the public rebuke of an elder communicate about the church to the world?
7. Paul warns Timothy about being “hasty in the laying on of hands” or commissioning elders. What should the process of adding an Elder or Pastor look like? Why?
8. How can a proper relationship between members and church leadership bring glory to God? How does an appreciation for the Gospel make this more likely?