

## Eldership in Edward Rangel

### Pre-Service Loop

0 slides in 0 items • 0s

### Warm-up

0 slides in 0 items • 0s


### Service

151 slides in 98 items

001 Eldership Church wishes



#### Introduction



What the Church Wished the Elders Knew

- Communication and Understanding are keys
- House divided... (Matthew 12:25)
- Needed for spiritual health and growth


"Any kingdom divided against itself is laid waste; and [b]any city or house divided against itself will not stand."

Matthew 12:25

#### Seek the Good of the Church



#### 1 Peter 5:1–3



Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, as *your* fellow elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that is to be revealed,  
1 Peter 5:1–3

NASB95

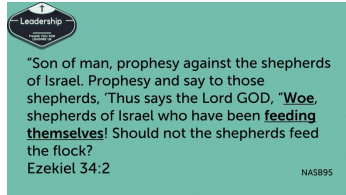
The elders are to act like loving shepherds who act out of genuine love for their flock.

This, by the way, is the same command given to all Christians and not just to the elders.

Peter is exhorting the leadership to always seek what is best for the church, overall and as individuals.

For example, remember when Jesus told his disciple the parable of the lost sheep, lost coin and prodigal son? This genuine concern is for the love of the individual and, for the church.

## Ezekiel 34:2



The **Woe!** is due because the rulers should have understood their God-given tasks to **take care of the flock** .

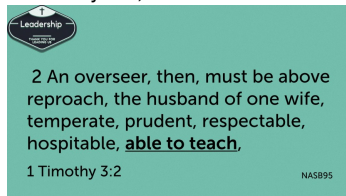
These kings and leaders were more concerned with feeding themselves first and not taking care of the congregation.

Elders in the church have a God-given responsibility to always seek the good of the church.

## Seek the Good of the Church



## 1 Timothy 3:2, 6

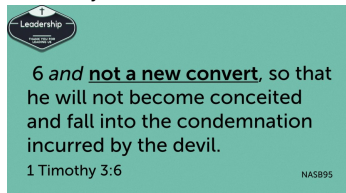


There is a reason why an elder must have this ability and aptitude. One of the primary roles of a shepherd is to care for, watch for, and protect the flock.

One area where this is important is in the teaching, knowing the Word of God well enough to stop the mouths of false teachers.

Some may say, "This doesn't mean that an elder must be a preacher, and that is true. But an elder must be able to teach.

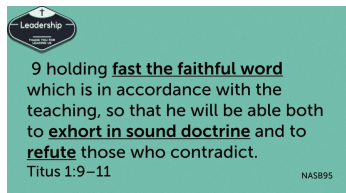
## 1 Timothy 3:6



The need for leaders to be active teachers of God's word is seen in: 1 Thess. 5:12; 1 Tim. 5:17; Heb. 13:7

One obvious caveat, an elder was be able to teach the truth, not his opinions and pet peeves.

## Titus 1:9-11



## Communicate with the Church



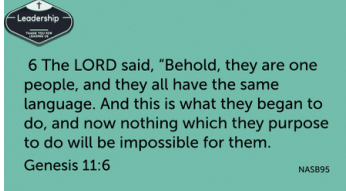
Communicating with the church does not mean that the church needs to be told everything about everything/everyone.

Every man considering to serve as an elder must understand that there will be times when the flock will share information with you that cannot be shared with everyone, because of confidence.

However, the church wishes that the eldership, as whole and in agreement, would communicate with the church.

There are some elders who believe they do not need to answer to the church, only to God.

## Genesis 11:6

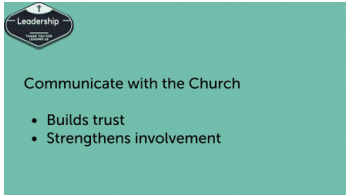


The alarm God was sounding here was that if the people continued with perfect communication, they would be so united that nothing could stop them from accomplishing any project.

In this case, their project was evil in the building of the Tower of Babel, and refusing to spread out and populate the earth.

For this lesson, it is important to note that open and good communication allows the church and leadership to be on the same page, same plan and accomplish much.

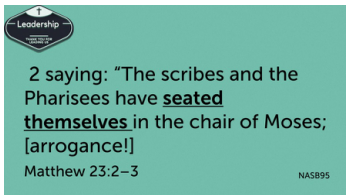
## Communicate with the Church



## Lead and not Just Direct

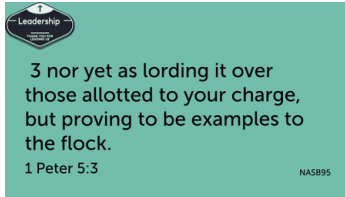


## Matthew 23:2-3



These leaders wanted authority and clout. They would force (lord) requirements on the people but would not do it themselves.

## 1 Peter 5:3



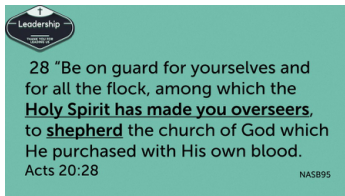
Part of leading the church is to set the example in everything godly.

Let us never forget that our leaders are human, susceptible to every temptation and sin you and are. As the flock we should always show respect and love towards our shepherds.

## Be Shepherds not just Administrat...



## Acts 20:28



Paul's reference to the Ephesian elders took up the metaphor of the shepherd and the flock.

Thus he commanded them to "be shepherds" (ποιμαίνειν, *poimainein*) of the church, a charge that would be especially appropriate in the face of the "savage wolves" which would come after his departure.

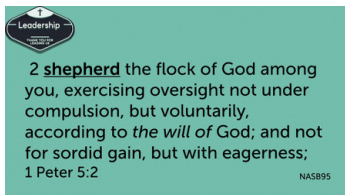
His reference was to false teachers, a threat which soon became reality in the churches of Asia Minor.

In many cases these false doctrines arose from believers within the church.

Their duty was to care for "the church of God which he bought with his own blood."

This command had nothing to do with setting budgets, setting worship times and selecting teaching materials. It had to do with loving and smelling like their sheep.

## 1 Peter 5:2

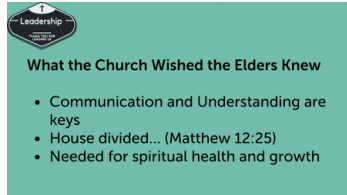


## Recognize and Use the Talents Wi...





## Recognize and Use the Talents Wi...



## What the Church Wished the Elders Knew

- Communication and Understanding are keys
- House divided... (Matthew 12:25)
- Needed for spiritual health and growth

The church is One body made up of MANY members

Romans 12

1 Corinthians 12

Members should be used within the scope of their talents (Romans 12)

## 002 Eldership Church wishes

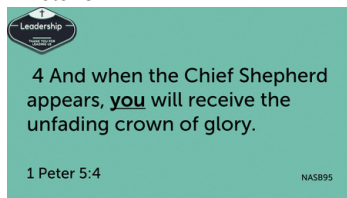


The church should be united. God's way of providing us with unity to give us shepherds who love and care for the church.

We all must recognize, understand and appreciate the diverse responsibilities that we all have, especially those who lead us.

Jesus is our Chief Shepherd

## 1 Peter 5:4



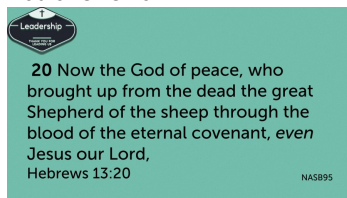
4 And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

1 Peter 5:4

NASB95

When Jesus comes again, faithful shepherds will receive their reward. What we would call "wreathes" (made either of leaves or other vegetation, or of gold or silver), were commonly awarded to show honor, not only to athletes, but for virtually any area of endeavor (for military success, government service, making contributions as a benefactor, etc.). Peter uses the word metaphorically and in contrast to wreathes of vegetation or even precious metals which eventually rot or corrode.

## Hebrews 13:20



20 Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, *even* Jesus our Lord,  
Hebrews 13:20

NASB95

As the Chief Shepherd He laid down His life for the church.

Let us obey the Gospel with humility and submit to God's will.

## Image Slideshow



## What the elders wish the church k...



## Hebrews 13:17



17 Obey your leaders and submit to *them*, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.

Hebrews 13:17

NASB95

## 1 Timothy 3:1

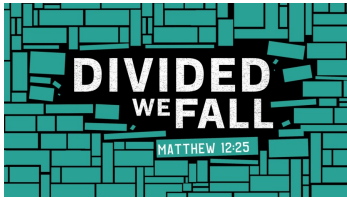


1 It is a trustworthy statement: if any man *aspires* to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to *do*.

1 Timothy 3:1

NASB95

## Matthew 12:25



## Lesson Outline



- Wishes the church would give them the benefit of the doubt
- They are not the opposition
- Faithfulness is a two-way street
- Understand what their job is

## Give them the benefit of the doubt



**Give them the Benefit**  
of the Doubt

## 1 Timothy 3:1–7



1 It is a trustworthy statement: if any man *aspires* to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to *do*.

1 Timothy 3:1–7

NASB95

The church appointed them on the basis of maturity, wisdom and equipped with good judgment.

Timothy is dealing with an established church with leaders already in place (cf. ).

Paul's concern is the place these men may have in the false teaching which is presenting itself in Ephesus ().

Paul provides a sharp contrast between the characteristics of these men who serve as overseers or bishops and the false teachers who are present in Ephesus.

## 1 Timothy 5:19



19 Do not receive an accusation against an elder except on the basis of two or three witnesses.

1 Timothy 5:19

NASB95

Take caution when accusing an elder, defend them when others will not

Paul is here simply calling for Timothy to protect the reputation of an elder as one should anyone (). It is very easy for elders, or for that matter anyone in a leadership position, to be the recipient of unfair and untrue accusations.

## Give them the benefit of the doubt



- All qualifications point to maturity
- If we cannot trust their judgment they should have never been appointed

## They Are Not the Opposition



**They Are Not the Opposition**  
We vs. Them

## 1 Corinthians 12:25



25 so that there may be no division in the body, but *that* the members may have the same care for one another.

1 Corinthians 12:25

NASB95

Since God is the author and source of unity among believers, He obviously supplies the church with those things necessary for unity.

## Hebrews 13:17



17 Obey your leaders and submit to *them*, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.

Hebrews 13:17

NASB95

## Give them the benefit of the doubt



- Heb. 13:7 - a call to imitate their faith
- Sheep can make job easier or a burden
- God holds leaders responsible
- James 3:1 - not many teachers
- Reciprocated by members who accept their responsibilities
- "keep watch"

Participating in leadership ministry within the church is not easy. It is time consuming and emotionally demanding.

Those who are to be led can make the job either a "joy" or a "burden."

To lead God's church is to be entrusted with the care of the spiritual well-being of God's flock.

And God holds leaders responsible, not only for their own lives but for their watchful care over the church.

James suggested to his readers that "Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly" (3:1). Leading the church is an awesome responsibility and a demanding task. But it is also the greatest privilege in the universe.

For the church to be effectively led, however, efforts to provide leadership must be reciprocated by members who accept their responsibilities.

They have responsibilities to God, to their leaders and to themselves.

First, obedience and submission to God-chosen leadership has been commanded by God.

To disregard this responsibility is to disregard the authority of God.

Also, members also have the responsibility to make the job of leadership easier, not more difficult. No one can lead without followers.

Finally, it is to their own advantage for members to work with leadership.

They are seeking our spiritual well-being.

The word translated "keep watch" (ἀγρυπνέω, *agrypneō*) literally means to "keep oneself awake." God will hold them accountable if they fall asleep on the job

and many a leader has lost sleep serving the best interests of his charge.

It is God's plan for our spiritual growth to provide leaders who can help us.

If we frustrate their efforts, we are the ones who lose.

## Faithfulness is a Two-way Street



**Faithfulness is a  
Two-way Street**

## Faithfulness is a Two-way Street



Faithfulness is a Two-way Street

- Elders are to know and shepherd the flock (1 Peter 5:1-4; John 10:14)
- Members have responsibilities towards the elders

## 1 Thessalonians 5:12–13



12 But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction,  
1 Thessalonians 5:12–13

NASB95

## John 10:4



4 “When he puts forth all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.

John 10:4

NASB95

To lead there must be followers

## Understand what their Job is



Understand what their Job is

## Understand what their Job is



Understand what their Job is

- Broader than just making decisions
- Ezekiel 34:1-4

## Lesson Outline



- Wishes the church would give them the benefit of the doubt
- They are not the opposition
- Faithfulness is a two-way street
- Understand what their job is

Leadership is often a lonely job. When one is part of the flock he has many friends. Once he becomes part of the leadership old friendships are no longer the same.

Look to the right and see:

no one stands up for me;

there is no refuge for me;

no one cares about me (Psalm 142:4)

Invitation



Betrayed (John 18) - Announces Judas will betray Him, their friend, their leader...

Suffered at the hands of cruel people (John 19)

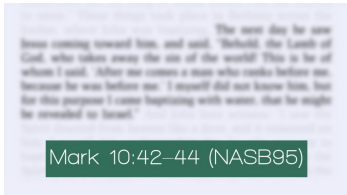
Crucified -later it is finished, His mission as still not complete though.

Alive: on the 3rd day the Holy Spirit of God resurrected the Lord

003 11/08/2020 Qualifications Eld...



Mark 10:42-45, 1 Peter 5:2-4



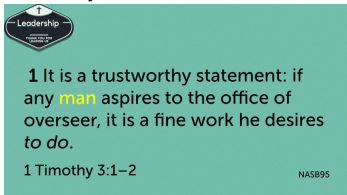
Basic and Clear Qualifications



Basic and Clear Qualifications



1 Timothy 3:1-2



## Basic and Clear Qualifications



"Basic" and Clear Qualifications

- Age
- Male (1 Tim. 3:1-2)

## Age and Experience



## Age and Experience

## Age and Experience



Age and Experience

- **1 Timothy 3:6**

## 1 Timothy 3:6



**6 and not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil.**

1 Timothy 3:6

NASB95

## Age and Experience



Age and Experience

- 1 Timothy 3:6 - not a novice

## 1 Timothy 3:2



**2 An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,**

1 Timothy 3:2

NASB95



## 1 Timothy 3:4-5



**4 He must be one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity**

1 Timothy 3:4-5

NASB95

## Titus 1:6



**6 namely, if any man is above reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion.**

Titus 1:6

NASB95

## Age and Experience



Age and Experience

- 1 Timothy 3:6 - not a novice
- Mature family man (1 Timothy 3:2, 4-5; Titus 1:6)

## 1 Timothy 3:2



**2 An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, [edify, exhort, correct, rebuke...]**

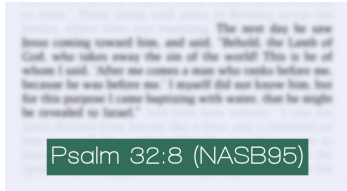
1 Timothy 3:2

NASB95

## 004 Eldership



## Psalm 32:8, Psalm 78:72, Mark 10...



### Eldership



- Matthew says a leader must serve, and 1 Timothy says that a leader must rule.
- Matthew says that a leader must be confident, but James tells us that a leader must be humble.

004 11/22/2020 004 Eldership Qu...



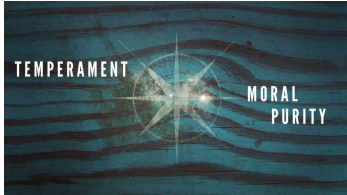
### Eldership



Perfect/Imperfect

- Good Shepherd in 23rd Psalm
- Peter in 1 Peter 5:1

### temperament



### Elements of temperament



**Elements of temperament**  
Being in Control

## Elements of temperament



## Elements of temperament

Self-control (“temperate” 1 Tim 3:2 - same requirement is for wives, vs. 11; same for older men, Titus 2:2)

Not given to extremes

Acts with deliberation and control, rather than impulsively.

Financially undisciplined, engages in questionable entertainment practices, speaks recklessly...is not self-controlled.

Sober-minded (“prudent, serious, earnest” 1 Tim. 3:2)

Clearly focused on his task. Ability to make decisions based on rational versus on emotions.

Must be able to discern arguments, identify the motives of the unscrupulous.

Must have foresight to foresee the implications of his decisions.

Must have resolve when criticized and not allow his emotions to get the best of him.

A man who is reactionary rather than prudent is not suited for the job.

Not pugnacious (“violent,” “brawler,” “quarrelsome,” “bully” 1 Tim. 3:3)

All these words mean that an elder is calm, cool and collected. Not easily provoked - many temptations to anger and defensiveness.

Someone who is a bully or has the attitude of “my way or the highway” is not qualified.

Yet, an elder must have the mettle rebuke evil.

Not self-willed (Titus 1:7; 1 Peter 5:3)

An elder must be careful to lead the flock and not drive them forcefully. An elder must be careful not to impose his opinions on the church. When he advises it should be done with a gentle and loving spirit. Elders with fellow elders should always keep in mind that their duty as a Christian is to submit to one another.

## Titus 1:7



7 For the overseer must be above reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain,  
Titus 1:7

NASB95

## 1 Peter 5:3



3 nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock.

1 Peter 5:3

NASB95

## Moral Purity



**Moral Purity**  
Evidence of

## Moral Purity



Moral Purity

## Moral purity

Lover of what is good (Titus 1:8; opposite of those in 2 Tim. 3:3)

Has a genuine desire to live purely and decently.

Does not privately engage in questionable activities that would undermine his respect if others knew of his behavior. Truly seeks things that are beneficial, godly and of impeccable reputation.

Not addicted to wine (1 Tim. 3:3)

An elder needs all of his mental, emotional and spiritual faculties in optimum working order. Therefore, he cannot afford to dull his senses with any type of fermented drinks or recreational drugs.

"I can drink and not get drunk." Not true, if senses become dull to any degree that person is drunk.

Elder's reputation must not be tarnished, it must be intact.

Not greedy (free of the love of money - (Tim. 3:3)

Must not be caught up in questionable money practices/dealings. Must not cheat on taxes, must not cheat others.

Must not live beyond his means and neglects his family and the church due to having to work too much.

## Acts 20:35



35 "In everything I showed you that by working hard in this manner you must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "

Acts 20:35

NASB95

## Invitation



Betrayed (John 18) - Announces Judas will betray Him, their friend, their leader...

Suffered at the hands of cruel people (John 19)

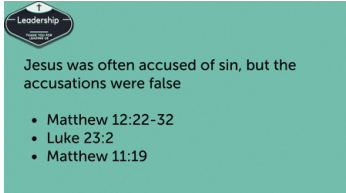
Crucified -later it is finished, His mission as still not complete though.

Alive: on the 3rd day the Holy Spirit of God resurrected the Lord

## 005 12/06/2020 Eldership



## Jesus was often accused of sin, b...



Jesus was often accused of sin, but the accusations were false.

Matthew 12:22-32 -Accused of being in cahoots with the Devil in casting out demons

Luke 23:2 - subverting Roman government, refusing to pay taxes, and claims to be the Messiah.

Matthew 11:19 - Accused of being a drunk and a glutton, friend of sinners and tax-collectors

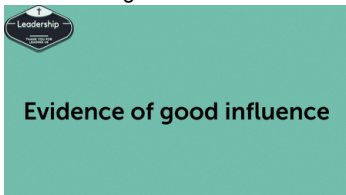
## Externals



People see what they see, not what they cannot see.

The next section of qualifications deal with what is externally visible. We must be careful not to allow our emotions, pet-peeves, our own short-comings, personal opinions, and gripes to get in the way of appointing divinely qualified men to serve as elders.

## Evidence of good influence



## Blameless (1 Timothy 3:2)



Blameless (1 Timothy 3:2)

Evidence of good influence

Blameless (1 Timothy 3:2)

This one qualification is the header for the rest that follow.

This does not mean not being above accusation, as seen with Jesus.

An elder must not be guilty of true charges of being wrong - clear sin

“Blameless” does not mean never having sinned, never having done anything wrong. (1 Peter 5:1; Galatians 2:11-12)

## Good reputation with those outsid...



Blameless (1 Timothy 3:2)

Good reputation with those outside the church (1 Timothy 3:7)

Equally important that the elder is respected by those outside the church. (i.e. the outside of the cup is clean as well as the inside, vice versa- Matt. 23:27; Luke 11:39; 1 Pet. 3:3; Rev. 11:2)

Why?

Those he works with side by side, his neighbors, must see Christ in him, but not faked

Lest he be tempted and fall into the devil's snare (being a hypocrite)

## Just (Titus 1:8)



Blameless (1 Timothy 3:2)

Good reputation with those outside the church (1 Timothy 3:7)

Just (Titus 1:8)

This is in respect to his fellow man. Joseph was “just”/“righteous” towards Mary (Matthew 1:19)

Must be fair and equitable towards all people, all ages, not acting based on favoritism but on fairness.

## Hospitable (1 Timothy 3:2)



Blameless (1 Timothy 3:2)

Good reputation with those outside the church (1 Timothy 3:7)

Just (Titus 1:8)

Hospitable (1 Timothy 3:2)

Elder and his wife must be generous, helpful, concerned

People-person

Hospitable involves the will: Cannot be aloof, distanced from the brethren.

An elder cares and shares his blessings with those who have need.

## Making Application



## Making Application

## Some of these qualifications are r...



Some of these qualifications are relative

Some of these qualifications are relative

How many times does an elder need to show hospitality before he is considered hospitable?

Does the elder and his family need to have everyone in their home, or are there varying degrees of hospitality?

Is there any evidence the elder is willing to open his home and share if there is a need?

## Some are hard to quantify



Some of these qualifications are relative

Some are hard to quantify

I may think that driving a \$50,000 vehicle is being a bad steward of finances, but that is solely my opinion.

Should my opinion be a valid accusation of greed?

## We must know the men of the chu...



Some of these qualifications are relative  
Some are hard to quantify

We must know the men of the church

Too many times we see each other at the building and no where else. How can we select men to lead us spiritually if we do not know each other.

Can that man handle the pressures of leadership?

## Qualifications are comprehensive



Some of these qualifications are relative  
Some are hard to quantify  
We must know the men of the church

Qualifications are comprehensive

Some may think a man can grow into the position, but that is not God's plan nor is it wise

Serving as an elder will magnify any weakness a man may have



## Not truly understanding the duties ...



Some of these qualifications are relative  
Some are hard to quantify  
We must know the men of the church  
Qualifications are comprehensive

Not truly understanding the duties of an elder

Some may think that an elder's job is to budget, so a business man is the perfect candidate

Some may think that an elder's job is to make decisions, so a degreed man is the perfect candidate

Some may think that an elder's job is to be a comforter, so a friendly and smiling man is the best candidate

The church needs to know the work, scope and pressures of the office.

## That's not the way we've done it in...



Some of these qualifications are relative  
Some are hard to quantify  
We must know the men of the church  
Qualifications are comprehensive  
Not truly understanding the duties of an elder

That's not the way we've done it in the past/or where I grew up

It is agreed that there are some strong disagreements on the interpretation of some of these qualifications, but those opinions should not get in the way of appointing elders.

Personal views should not be imposed on others.

Discontent with a decision should not be manifested with leaving the church family and looking elsewhere for a panacea.

Self-will cannot be allowed to hold a congregation hostage.

## Perfection



## 12 apostles



We should be reminded of the men Jesus chose to be His apostles. They were far from being perfect:

Peter: One minute he was walking on water by faith, and the next he was sinking in doubt. Impulsive and emotional, Peter is best known for denying Jesus when the pressure was on. Even so, as a disciple he was dearly loved by Christ, holding a special place among the twelve.

Andrew: lived in the shadow of his more famous sibling, Simon Peter.

James and John earned a special nickname from the Lord — "sons of thunder"

Philip: His lack of faith earned him a rebuke from Jesus, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don't know who I am?"

Bartholomew: If he was Nathanael, he was skeptical of Jesus at first

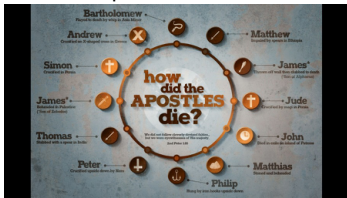
Matthew the dishonest tax collector (bad reputation from without)

Thomas was prone to extremes, known as the doubter

Judas Iscariot is the apostle who betrayed Jesus with a kiss.

Paul, the persecutor

## 12 DEAD apostles



With the exclusion of Judas, all were given a second chance and the commissioned with the greatest message of all, the Gospel of the Lord.

They were so dedicated to their mission that they gave their lives for the Lord and His Bride, the church:

Paul was beheaded

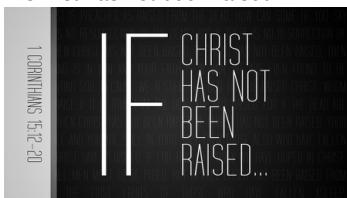
Peter was crucified, upside down at his request

Andrew went to the "land of the man-eaters," in what is now the Soviet Union. Christians there claim him as the first to bring the gospel to their land. He also preached in Asia Minor, modern-day Turkey, and in Greece, where he is said to have been crucified.

Thomas: the ancient Marthoma Christians of India revere him as their founder. They claim that he died there when pierced through with the spears of four soldiers.

Philip converted the wife of a Roman proconsul, he had Philip arrested and cruelly executed.

## If Christ has not been raised



## 1 Corinthians 15:1–4

1 Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand,

1 Corinthians 15:1–4

NASB95

## 1 Corinthians 15:14

14 and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain.

1 Corinthians 15:14

NASB95

## 1 Corinthians 15:14

14 and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain.

1 Corinthians 15:14

NASB95

## 1 Corinthians 15:20

20 But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep.

1 Corinthians 15:20

NASB95

## 1 Corinthians 15:54–56

54b "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP in victory.

1 Corinthians 15:54–56

NASB95

**Post-Service Loop**

0 slides in 0 items • 0s