

Getting Started

1. What leadership roles has God called you to? What servant roles?
2. Do you have trouble submitting to those in authority?
3. What has stood out to you most in the letter of 1 Peter?
4. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's sermon did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

Digging Deeper

5. **Belgic Confession Article 31: The Officers of the Church**

We believe that ministers of the Word of God, elders, and deacons ought to be chosen to their offices by a legitimate election of the church, with prayer in the name of the Lord, and in good order, as the Word of God teaches. So all must be careful not to push themselves forward improperly, but must wait for God's call, so that they may be assured of their calling and be certain that they are chosen by the Lord. As for the ministers of the Word, they all have the same power and authority, no matter where they may be, since they are all servants of Jesus Christ, the only universal bishop, and the only head of the church. Moreover, to keep God's holy order from being violated or despised, we say that everyone ought, as much as possible, to hold the ministers of the Word and elders of the church in special esteem, because of the work they do, and be at peace with them, without grumbling, quarreling, or fighting.

Does Ross Church elect our elders and deacons in the manner described here? Do we hold our pastor and elders in special esteem?

6. How does Peter take his call from Jesus in John 21:15-19 and apply it to the elders of the church?
7. Read Acts 20:18-35. Compare Paul's teaching to the elders in Ephesus to the Peter's teaching to the elders.
8. Peter speaks of eternal glory in 5:10. Read John 17:22-24; Romans 8:28-30; 2 Cor. 4:17 and 2 Timothy 2:10. What is this glory that these passage speak of?

Application

9. As the people of God we are to stand firm in our faith and serve God wholeheartedly. We stand firm by being humble, but also boldly resisting evil. We stand firm in our faith by subjecting ourselves to the leadership of God's church. Follow Jesus Christ, stand firm in your faith no matter what and one day you will receive your eternal glory.

Bible Reading Questions

November 7 – Matthew 24 – When Jesus says to be ready for his return what does he mean? What does being ready look like?

November 8 – Matthew 25 – Do you feed the poor, visit the incarcerated and give water to the thirsty?

November 9 – Matthew 26; Mark 14 – Jesus could have stopped his crucifixion, but he does not. Why?

November 10 – Luke 22; John 13 – What connection does the Passover have with Jesus' crucifixion?

November 11 – John 14-17 – Why was the Holy Spirit given to us?

November 12 – Matthew 27; Mark 15 – Note Pilate's reaction. Does he want to crucify Jesus? Who pushes for Jesus' crucifixion?

November 13 – Luke 23; John 18-19 – What reason do the Jews bring Jesus to Pilate? Why is that Important?

Ross Community Reformed Church

Pastor Shawn Gerbers · November 6, 2016

Common Problems

“Follow the Leader”

Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

1 Peter 5:5

- **Elders are to _____ God's flock, _____ and by good _____.**

- **God's people are to have _____ toward others and bold _____ to evil.**

Topics: Leadership, service, humility