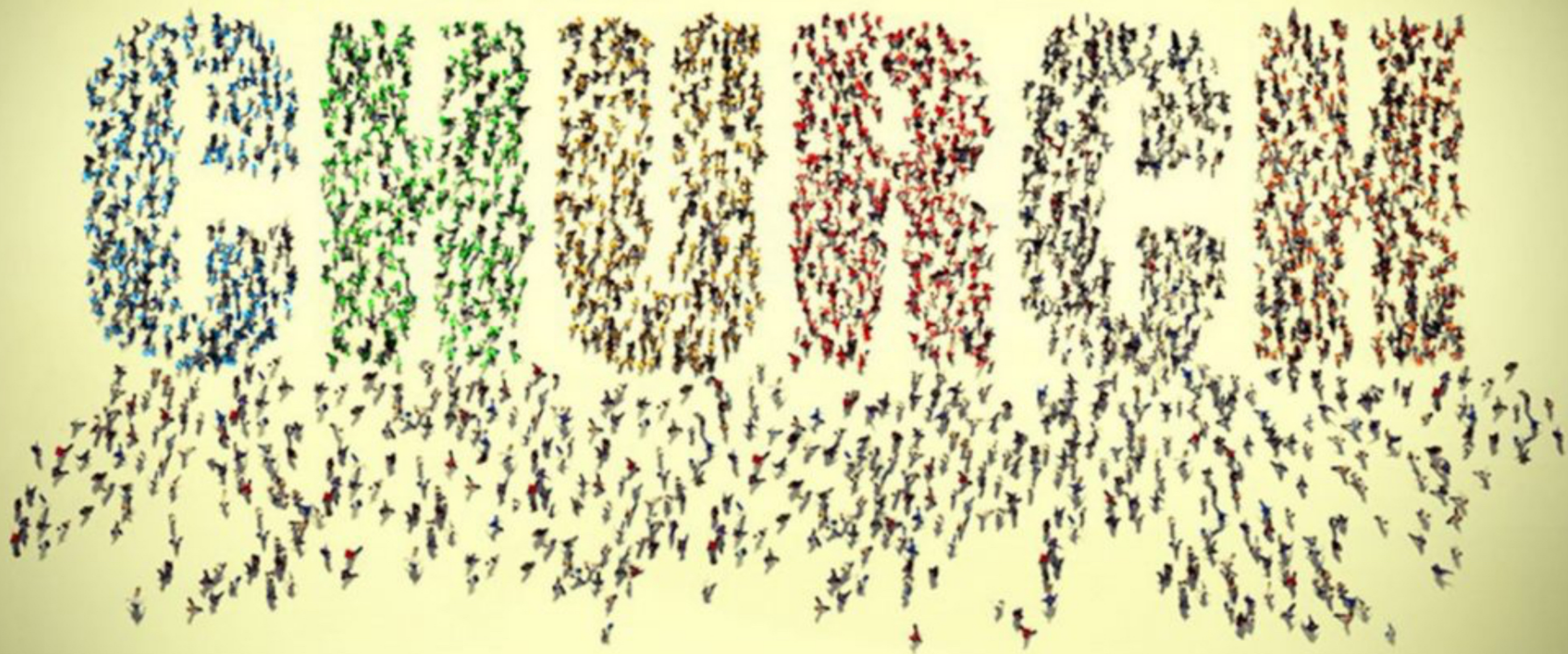


# WHAT IS THE



To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: <sup>2</sup> Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers — not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; <sup>3</sup> not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

<sup>4</sup> And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

<sup>5</sup> Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” <sup>6</sup> Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. <sup>7</sup> Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. (1 Peter 5:1–7)

# **Understanding Elders in the New Testament**

# Elders Serve As A Group

To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: <sup>2</sup> Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care...

1 Peter 5:1–2



# Elders Shepherd the Flock

To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: <sup>2</sup> Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care...

1 Peter 5:1–2



# Elders Shepherd the Flock

Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. <sup>29</sup> I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. <sup>30</sup> Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them.

Acts 20:28–30



# Elders Shepherd the Flock

It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers,

Ephesians 4:11





# Jesus the Shepherd and Overseer

2:25 For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls... 5:4 And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

1 Peter 2:25; 5:4



# Elders Shepherd by the Word of God

Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.

Hebrews 13:7



# Elders Shepherd by the Word of God

Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,

1 Timothy 3:2



# Elders Are Servant Leaders

Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers — not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve;<sup>3</sup> not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

1 Peter 5:2–3



# Elders Are Servant Leaders

Jesus said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors. <sup>26</sup> But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves.

Luke 22:25–26



# Elders - Examples in Character & Conduct

not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock...<sup>5</sup> Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

1 Peter 5:3, 5



# Elders - Examples in Character & Conduct

Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.

Hebrews 13:7



# Elders Point To Jesus

And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away... <sup>7</sup> Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

1 Peter 5:4, 7





# Applying the Word

# Receive From Leaders Willingly

Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.

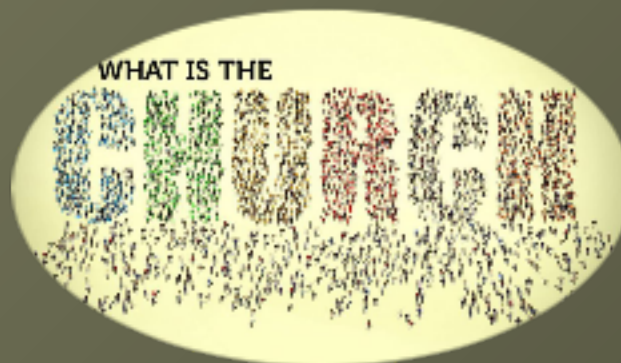
Hebrews 13:17



# The True Shepherd and Overseer - Jesus!

For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to [the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.](#)

1 Peter 2:25



The Table -  
Fed by the Shpeherd

