

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

1. Introduction
 - a. We have seen the outcome of good leadership
 - i. In the nation (Singapore)
 - ii. In our church (Bethany)
 - b. What happens when leadership is not good
 - i. Everyone does what is right in his own eyes (Judges 21: 25)
 - ii. Bad leaders destroy the flock (Jeremiah 23: 1)
 - iii. Modern examples of bad leaders
 - c. Good church leadership as taught in the Scriptures
 - i. The idea of church leadership
 - ii. How we should relate to our leaders
2. The idea of church leadership
 - a. ἡγεομαι (heigeomai), translated "rule" (Hebrews 13: 7)
 - b. The idea here
 - i. Not leadership by command
 - ii. But leadership by example
 - c. Who leads?
 - i. Those who speak the Word of God
 - ii. They lead by the Word of God
 - iii. To be contrasted with those who teach "various and strange doctrines"

HOW WE SHOULD RELATE TO OUR LEADERS

1. Remember (Hebrews 13: 7)
 - a. To have regard
 - b. To be mindful
 - c. To bear in mind the rightful place of our leaders
2. Follow
 - a. To "mimic" / "imitate" their faith

- i. Those who have faith see faith in others
 - ii. Seeking to imitate the faith of our leaders
 - b. Looking closely at their conduct
 - i. Their conduct can be carefully studied and scrutinised
 - ii. There are things that can be learnt
 - c. Consistency will be found in all aspects of life
 - i. What they say
 - ii. Their faith
 - iii. What they do
- 3. Obey (Hebrews 3: 17)
 - a. Not compliance alone
 - b. But being persuaded that they are good leaders
 - c. Choosing to be submissive to them

CHALLENGE TO ALL

- 1. Appreciating Bethany's leaders
 - a. They speak the Word of God
 - b. Their faith follow
 - c. Their conduct may be considered carefully and learnt from
- 2. Appropriate responses
 - a. Remember
 - b. Follow
 - c. Obey

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct. Hebrews 13: 7