

Wanted: For a Voluntary position/ Elder/Shepherd

Two or more positions available (Job Description):

A Christian man with age and experience in living a Godly life. One who desires to serve and do God's work with His church. His responsibilities will consist of; Stewardship of a local congregation, to oversee the affairs of the Lords church. Stewardship (definition: consists of being entrusted with the management of the affairs of God's household, that is His property, finances, and charge of His church, including the oversight of buying of household necessities etc., directing servants, making decisions being the manager/overseer for said household with consideration for all the different needs of the members). This entails taking all the members under consideration by not lording their authority over them and not making decisions for selfish reasons. The position also requires that the applicant fulfill the role of being a Shepherd. He will look out for the welfare of the entire flock and protect them if need be from false or hurtful adversaries that might befall the flock under his charge, and in these cases sometimes his life might be on the line. He must not cower from adversaries but stand firm in God's word. He must know God's word and be able to apply it to himself and his flock. He must communicate with the Master at a moments notice for direction and healing. He must manage his own household well and be an example which will show his flock his wisdom in training with love to help his own children stand before the Master with favor. He must be kind to a fault, but like our Master be ready to rebuke severely those who would enter in and disrupt the flock with intent to destroy. He is also responsible for the souls under his charge; this steward/shepherd will be accountable to the Master when his job is complete.

Qualifications:

He must Not!!

Be addicted to alcohol, contentious, be a lover of money, and not a new convert lest he fall into the devils snares. He must not be self-willed or selfish, not quick tempered, and rebellious, and not violent or greedy for money.

He Must!!!

Be kind and gentle, be above reproach, be married to one woman, have children who are under his control with all dignity that are believers, manage his household well, be hospitable, able to teach, not be afraid to refute and rebuke false teaching and be well grounded in God's word. He must also be one of good report from those outside the church (if this is not so he can do great harm in driving away those who might obey the gospel). He must not lord his authority over those in his charge but love the flock under his charge. He must know his sheep and they must know him. He must be devout, sensible, self-controlled.

Warning!

He will be held to a much higher scrutiny by the Master by taking on this position. It will have its perks; some will work hard and be in subjection to you and make

your job a joy. There will be a down side, as some will be rebellious, others lazy and still others wanderers that need finding and to be brought back to the fold. All of those under your charge will be directed to obey and submit to you as their leader for it will go well with them if this is their attitude. Hebrews 13:7 & Heb.13:17

Just an interesting sidebar:

One thing that I found interesting in Heb.13:7 and 13:17. The same Greek word (Hegeomai) used here for leaders is the same one used of Joseph by Stephen in Acts 7:10. In this passage Stephen called Joseph governor (Hegeomai) over Egypt and all Pharaoh's household. In the Hebrews passages sighted above the word is translated "leaders", and those that "led you". The word Hegeomai means:

- A. To go before
- B. to be a leader
 - 1. to rule or command
 - 2. to have authority over
 - 3. a prince, of regal power, governor, viceroy, chief leading as respects influence, controlling in council overseers or leaders of the churches

In the previous "what does the bible say" class a sheet was handed out that said in Heb.13:7 and 13:17 that these two words "leader and "those who led" do not refer to elders, but to those who had taught you the gospel, which could have been anyone, your grandma or cousin etc. However in these passages we are told to obey and to submit to said leaders, who must give an account for our souls. This would only apply to elders and not just anyone who may have taught us the gospel. Are we to obey and submit to them also? Yes we are to be in submission to one another, but this passage clearly refers only to elders. The word, "obey" (Gr. Peitho) def; To persuade, to listen to, yield to, comply with, trust. And to "submit": (Gr. Hupeiko) def; 1.To resist no longer but to give way, yield (of combatants) 2. To yield to authority and admonition, to submit.

A study by Joyce Davila: All the above is from 1 Tim.3:1-7, Titus 1:5-16, 1 Thes.5:12-13, Heb. 13:7 and Heb. 13:17, 1Pet. 5:1-4, using the NAS with Strong's Greek translations.