

The Call for Elders
Acts 14:19-23
June 6, 2021

I. Elders in the Early Church (Acts 14:19-23)

- A. The call for elders is _____ call, not the world's wish.

- B. Two Lessons from Paul and Barnabas' missionary journey:
 - 1. The _____ of the gospel is worth everything.
 - 2. The response of the _____ is worth nothing.

- C. The call for elders protects the church from a _____.

II. Elders in the Old Testament

- A. The call for elders reflects God's heart for _____
(Numbers 11:16-17).

- B. The call for elders reflects Christ's _____ of the church
(Jeremiah 3:14-15).

- C. The call for elders reflects God's leadership style as
_____ of His people (Isaiah 40:11-12).

III. Elders in the New Testament

- A. The call for elders reflects God's heart for _____
(Titus 1:5, 10-11 & Ephesians 4:11-14).

Group Discussion Questions

1. Read Acts 14:19-23.
2. How is it that a crowd of people who, just a verse ago, were trying to worship the ground Paul walked on, end up stoning him later? What does this tell you about the kind of leadership the world wants?
3. What does Paul and Barnabas' return to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch in verse 21, the very people who incited the crowd to stone him, tell us about how much the gospel is worth? Considering they had already been to these places and made disciples, how much does this tell us discipleship is worth? Why?
4. What were the three discipleship goals of Paul and Barnabas for the new believers in verse 22? Why do you think these things were emphasized?
5. What about appointing elders (also known as pastors) do you think Paul and Barnabas thought would help these new churches in their absence? Why is it important for churches to have good pastoral/elder leadership today? Consider reading Titus 1:5-16 and Ephesians 4:11-14.
6. Pray for each other, that God would strengthen your soul, encourage your faith, and help you endure tribulation. Consider attending today's special Zoom Prayer Meeting at 5:15 pm with the VBS workers.

Church Bible Reading Plan

Bible Reading Plan: Galatians 1-2

June Memory Verses: Galatians 1:6-9

Ephesians 6:18

*. . . praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.
To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,*

BEFORE Sunday Night Prayer Meeting:

If you have not done so already, register from the www.apollobaptist.org home page by clicking the image for the Prayer Meeting. If you were registered before, you will need to sign up again. The new registration will last through 9/5/21. Register with your name and email address. Click on the emailed Zoom link at the time of the Prayer Meeting.

DURING Sunday Night Prayer Meeting:

PRAYING for our VBS workers and kids.

Pray for Our Church Family Needs:

- Those with anxiety, employment or health issues because of COVID
- PRAY for missions and missionaries:
 - Dr. Doug and Cheryl D. as they finish their 14 day quarantine on the field
 - Jules S. as she awaits final visa papers to head to the mission field
- Vacation Bible School: for each attendee, each teacher, each director, and for God to use VBS to bring families to Himself for salvation and be disciplined into fully devoted followers of Jesus
- Family & friends of church members who need salvation or to renew their relationship with Jesus
- Families who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones:
Zelma W. (father), Family of Ella Rae T., Don R. (wife, Brenda), Yvonne B. (husband, Pastor Jamal), Tom M. (mom)
- Those struggling with on-going health and emotional issues:
Mary C. (breast cancer), Mary R. (possible dialysis), Don R. (sciatica pain), Harry and Pam D. (Harry's health and Pam's ongoing care-giving needs), Korrena C. (home but still receiving therapy), Debbie B. (breast cancer has spread to her bones, pray for successful treatment), Linda C. (anxiety over Greg's recent heart issues), Floyd and Pat W. (mobility issues and dementia), Camille K. (pain associated with cancer treatment), Twyla H. (dealing with repeated UTIs), Dick T. (heart problems), Michelle L. (finding correct medicine), Phil K. (hospitalized due to build-up of fluid in lungs), Lori S. (dementia concerns), Gary C. (pneumonia), James M. (hospital)
- Those awaiting surgery:
 - Ruthie C. (stomach repair), Ann W. (gallbladder removal)
- Those recovering from surgery:
 - Greg C. (stent in his heart), Dave C. (shoulder surgery), Debbie P. (surgery due to fractured hip)
- Those struggling with family relational issues:
 - Ketty B. (friend), Marge D. (a son)
- Those needing employment:
 - Larry S., Reginald G.
- Others that you are aware of