

16. Why do you think that, in many conflicts, Christians forget to act in the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23, 25-26) and instead act in the flesh (Gal. 5:20-21)?

17. Why is it so hard to implement biblical principles when we are dealing with conflict?

18. Describe “the wisdom from above,” mentioned in James 3:13, 17-18. Describe “the wisdom from below,” James 3:14-16. Why is it essential that an elder know James 3:13-18 when facing conflict within the church?

19. Read about the leadership conflict between Paul and Barnabas in Acts 15:36-41. Summarize the issue. What do you think Paul could have done differently to solve the conflict that led to the separation between him and Barnabas? What do you think Barnabas could have done differently to solve the conflict that led to the separation between him and Paul?

What personal needs has the Holy Spirit exposed during this study? How can we pray with you about those needs? Consider memorizing James 3:17.



Sunday, November 17, 2024

A Strong Foundation

13. Matters of Belief and Conduct

1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9, 1 Peter 5:1-4, Hebrews 13:17

Our statement of faith and belief does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe.

For purposes of First Baptist Church of Waldport, Oregon's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our Pastor and Board of Elders are the First Baptist Church of Waldport's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.

Three things Elders have:

1. Biblical _____

2. Essential _____

3. Personal _____

Study Guide

For the week of November 17, 2024

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. Paraphrase of Psalm 78:70-72 and 2 Corinthians 10:1. Be creative in your paraphrase.
2. Why is it absolutely critical that an elder desires to continually improve his people skills? List as many reasons as you can.
3. It is inevitable that church leaders will be criticized or misunderstood. In what ways does Paul's response to the difficult Corinthians serve as a model for these difficult situations?
4. In our hyper-busy society, why is it critical for an elder to be available and visible to those he is serving (spend time with the sheep)?
5. Why do you think that no amount of good works, wisdom, hatred of sin, or disciplined doctrine can ever make up for lack of love?
6. Why do you think church work is slow work?
7. Why is it imperative that an elder be gentle/patient?
8. It's important to understand the difference between being passive and being patient. They are not the same thing. Explain the difference between a leader who is passive toward people and problems, and a leader who is patient with people and problems.
9. Why is it vital for elders to set the tone for encouragement in the local church?
10. Why do we find the ministry of encouraging others so difficult?
11. Why is hospitality required of a pastoral elder? List as many reasons as you can.
12. Write a creative paraphrase of the following texts on prayer: Colossians 4:12, Acts 6:4, 1 Samuel 12:23.
13. When confronting someone about his or her sin, how should an elder respond the objection, "Who are you to judge me and try to restore me? You are not perfect."
14. What is the difference between shepherding and the gift of mercies?
15. How important is humility to an effective elder ministry?