

FAQ's
Frequently Asked Questions
Concerning Elder Selection

Q: What is my responsibility to the leadership of Real Life Community Church?

A: While the New Testament has much to say about the qualifications and responsibilities of church leaders, it is also very clear that church *members* have responsibilities as well. Members of the church are to be supportive, cooperative, trusting, and encouraging toward the leadership God has put in place. This support and cooperation can, and must, take many forms.

Members must invite personal accountability, must pursue honorable, loving relationships, and must generously contribute their time, talent, and financial support to the ministry of the church.

Members must seek to serve more than be served, must take personal responsibility for their own spiritual growth, and must take an active role in the church by sharing joyfully in the work and following through on tasks with all diligence.

Other means of supporting leadership come in the form of hospitality—and even simple kindness. Leaders have an enormous responsibility, and are to be given the respect and admiration due them as servants of the flock, called, and set apart by God for such service. A word of kindness, appreciation, and encouragement is always appropriate.

Ultimately, while holding leaders accountable for their actions and decisions, each member is to bring to the church and her leadership a fully submitted, Spirit-filled self. Just as our leaders must consistently seek to become better leaders, we who follow must strive to be the best followers we can become.

We must offer our prayers on behalf of our leaders, as well as our wisdom, counsel, and creative ideas, and then be responsive to those who lead by deferring to their decisions, and in love and humility subordinating ourselves to their authority (even when we have a difference of opinion!). This, perhaps more than anything else, allows our leadership to be effective, and makes the role of a leader much easier and much more enjoyable.

Remember, we all, leader and follower alike, serve with Christ as the Head of the church. We must all seek to remain obedient to Him—faithful to His will—and be satisfied with nothing less.

See Matthew 10:10, Romans 15:30, 1 Corinthians 9:14, 16:15-16, 2 Corinthians 2:5-9, Galatians 4:14, 6:6, Ephesians 1:22-23, Philippians 2:12, 29, Colossians 1:18, 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13, 1 Timothy 5:17-18, Philemon 21, Hebrews 5:12-14, 13:7, 17-18, and 1 Peter 5:1-6.

In addition, see Article III Sections 5 and 6 of the RLCC Constitution and Bylaws (available on the resource table).

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