

A silhouette of a shepherd in a long robe and hood, holding a crook, stands on a grassy hill. Three sheep are visible: one lying down on the left, and two standing to the right. The background is a soft gradient from yellow to blue, suggesting a sunset or sunrise.

INTRO TO BIBLICAL LEADERSHIP

Class Purpose:

- “The long-term health and spiritual vitality of any church is dependent on leadership development.” – Mac Lake –The Multiplication Effect: Building a Leadership Pipeline
- FBC Leadership Aim: Servant leadership motivated by love with the goal of transformed lives.



Body Life – Session One - Review

- Engagement within the local group of believers, impacting one another in Christ-like thinking, attitudes and actions for the benefit of one another and the glory of God.
- Practically, this would include the use of our gifting, the “one-anothering” serving for the group’s sake and pursuing the maturation of the entire group.
- Leadership therefore plays a significant part in this process by setting direction, modeling, exhorting and even admonishing and correcting.
- Growth occurs best in the context of community.
- Leaders need to use their gifting and encourage the body in the same. Human leadership then becomes the tangible way in which Christ leads each specific local church.

Body Life - The Local Church - Thinking

- Did Christ come to save me or the church?
 - The individual. John 3:16; Galatians 2:20
 - The Church. Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 5:22-33; 1 Peter 2:9
- What is our response to the love of Christ?.
 - 2 Corinthians 5:15

Body Life - The Local Church - Thinking

- Where is the local church defined in scripture?
 - My ecclesiology of the local church.
 - Ephesians 4:1 – 5:21 – One new man. Relationships within the body.
 - Hebrews 10:24 – 25 – Encouraging one another to love and good deeds.
 - Titus 1:5 – 9 – Elders / overseers are to be appointed in every city.
 - 1 Peter 5:2 – Elders are to shepherd the “flock of God among you”.
 - Hebrews 13:17; 1 Corinthians 16:16 – Elders will give an account for those under their care. We are called to submit to our leaders.
 - Romans / 1 Corinthians – Believers organize to help churches in other areas.
 - Pastoral Epistles – Encouragement to love one another.
 - Revelation 2 – 3 – The Son of Man critiques local churches in Asia Minor.

Body Life - The Local Church - Thinking

- How important is the global / local church to God?
 - What did Christ do for His Bride? Ephesians 5:27-33
 - “He loved her, gave himself up for her, to sanctify her, having cleansed her, that he might present her to himself. The statement is so complete and comprehensive that some scholars think it may be a quotation from an early Christian confession, liturgy or hymn. It seems to trace Christ’s care for his church from a past to a future eternity.”
 - John R. W. Stott, God’s New Society: The Message of Ephesians

Body Life - The Local Church - Attitude

- How important is Christ to the church?
 - So important that it requires our submission in everything.
 - Ephesians 5:22,24
 - Romans 12:2

Body Life - The Local Church - Action

- What should be our commitment to the local church?
- Do we have a hesitation participating in the life of the body? Or of making FBC the hub for our ministry to fellow believers, and to the world? If so, why?

Body Life - The Local Church – Case Study

- When a member of your community group is found to be in sin, how do you as a leader shepherd or lead in grace?
- How do you lead the other folks in your community group to minister the one in sin? How do you disciple your group as they deal with their hurt and anger?
- How do the elders, pastoral staff, and other leaders disciple the congregation at large in this situation?

Body Life - The Local Church – Action

- What is the goal of church discipline?
- Can you reconcile grace with the need for church discipline?
- What does a healthy church and a healthy leader look like?
- How important is unity in the body?
- Since body life is foreign to our culture, how do we train others to appreciate and partake?

Homework for August 2 – View of God

- Premise: Our view of God will determine the importance we place on our role within the body, our service, and our leadership.
- Does my view of God come from a biblical understanding or is it just a perception I have about God based on my feelings or experiences?
- Does my view accurately reflect who He really is, and am I growing in knowing Him more?
- Read: Philippians 3:8-10; Ephesians 1:15 - 19