

## Session 1: Church Leadership

### I. LEADERSHIP IS:

#### A. Perfected In Heaven:

##### 1. In the Trinity:

###### a. There is equality:

**John 1:1** *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

**Philippians 2:6** *Who [Christ], being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,*

**John 14:9** *Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, "Show us the Father"?"*

**John 5:18** *Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.*

###### b. Yet there is leadership:

**1 Corinthians 11:3b** *...The head (κεφαλή kephalē) of Christ is God.*

**1 Corinthians 15:27-28** *For "He [the Father] has put all things under His feet." But when He says, "All things are put under Him [Christ]," it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. <sup>28</sup> Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him [the Father] who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.*

**John 6:38** *For I [Christ] have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.*

##### 2. Among Angels:

###### a. Jude 9 refers to Michael as an archangel. (ἀρχάγγελος archangelos)



**B. Reflected in creation:**

1. In the Animal Kingdom:

*Genesis 1:28* Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

2. In Marriage:

a. There is equality:

*Genesis 1:27* So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

*1 Peter 3:7* Giving honor to the wife...as being heirs together of the grace of life

*Galatians 3:27-28* <sup>27</sup> For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

b. Yet, there is clearly leadership:

*1 Corinthians 11:3a* But I want you to know that the head (κεφαλή kephalē) of every man is Christ, the head (κεφαλή kephalē) of woman is man...

**C. Expected in church:**

*Hebrews 13:17* Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account.

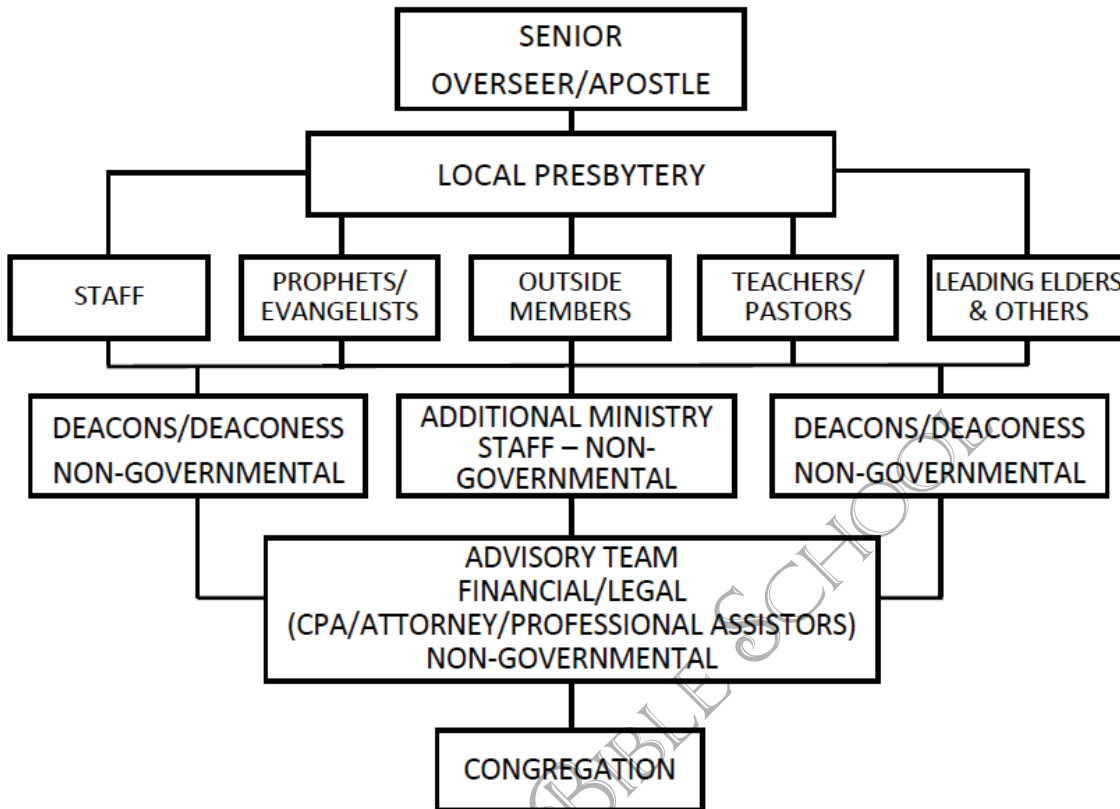
*Acts 20:28* Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.



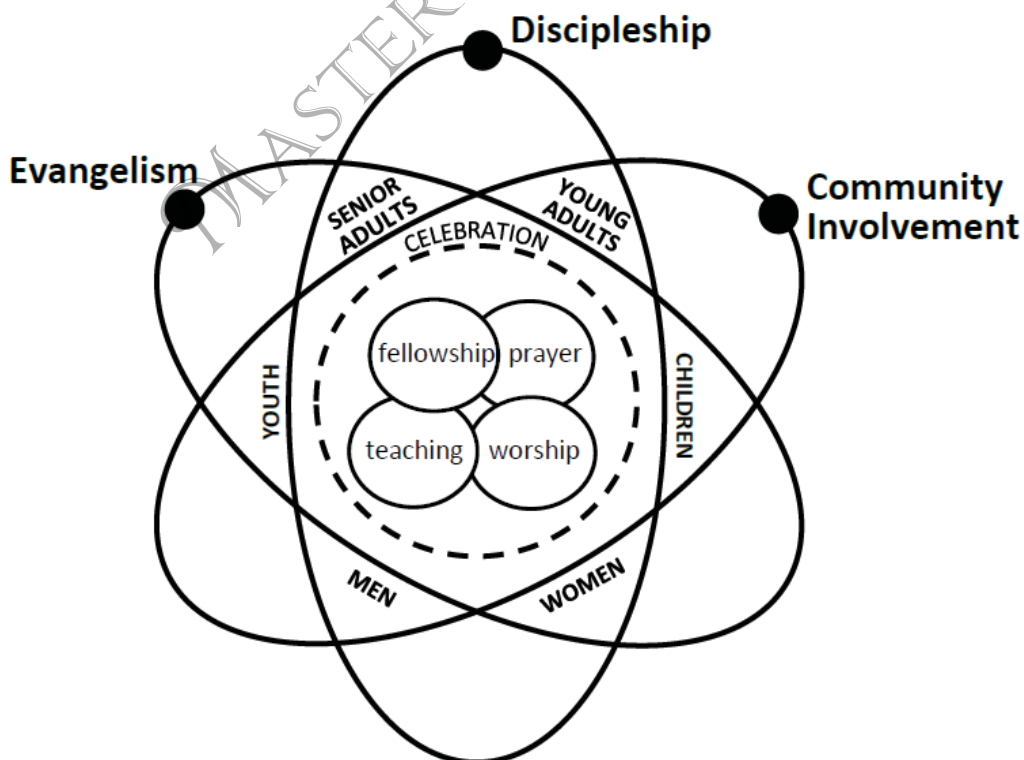
## II. WHAT MODEL OF LEADERSHIP?

Examples of modern church governments:

### A. Hierarchical Model

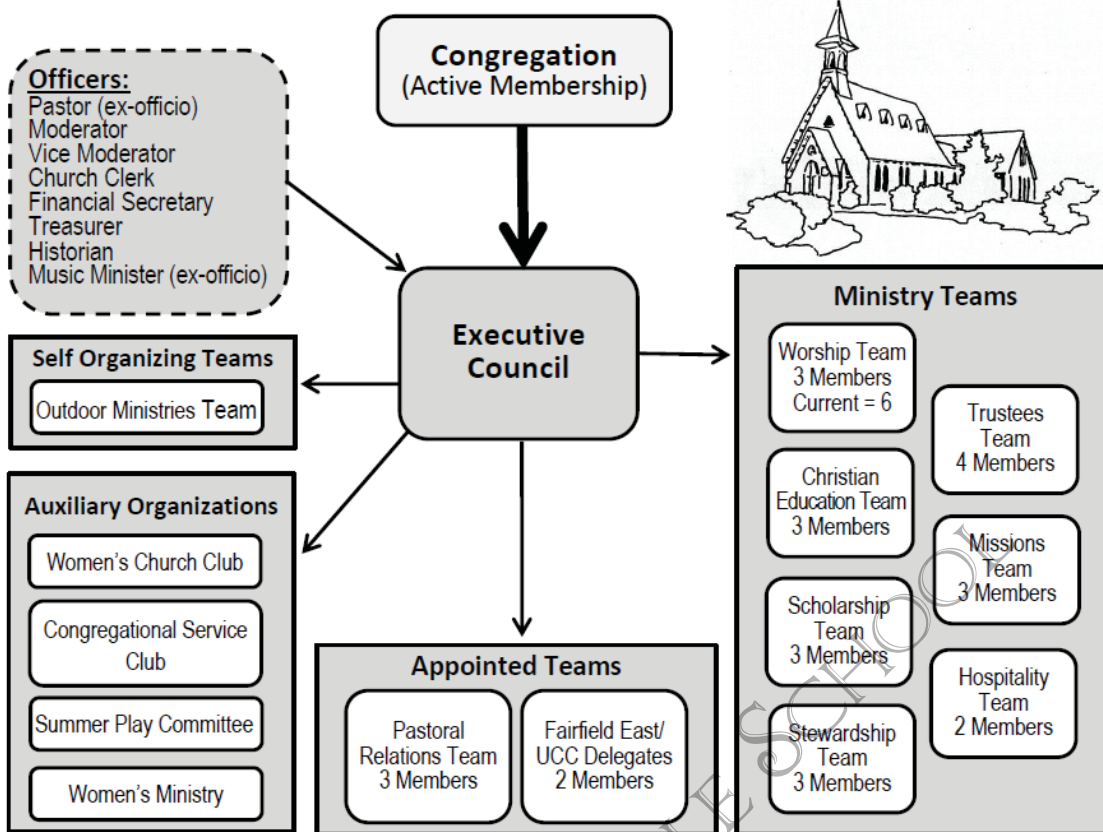


### B. Team Network Model





### C. Democratic Model



### III. WHAT IS ELDERSHIP?

#### A. The biblical definition of “elder”

1. The word “elder” (πρεσβύτερος presbyteros) functions in the Church interchangeably with:
  - a. Overseer (ἐπίσκοπος episkopos, also translated *bishop*)
  - b. Pastor (ποιμαίνω poimainō, also translated *shepherd*)

**Acts 20:17** From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church...

**Acts 20:28** Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers (ἐπίσκοπος episkopos), to shepherd (ποιμαίνω poimaino) the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

**1 Peter 5:1-2a** The elders (πρεσβύτερος presbuteros) who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed: <sup>2</sup> Shepherd (ποιμαίνω poimaino) the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers (ἐπισκοπέω episkopeo)...

