

Love Between Church Leaders and Members - Pie in the Sky or a Cause for Which to Die?

February 28, 2021, 1 Peter 5:1-11, Rick Maxwell

A Day of Celebration

- AGM outcomes
 - New leaders
 - Budget
 - Constitution and Bylaws
- A new era has begun
 - Relational restoration
 - Better organization
 - Better spirit of love between leaders and followers

What do the Scriptures say about the love of elders and members for one another? (1 Peter 5:1-11)

Three ways Elders can Love the Members of Christ's Body

1. Not treating their role as a mere duty - Privilege vs obligation
2. Living to give and not to get - Service vs selfishness
3. Leading by example - Demonstrating vs demanding

One main way Members can Love their Church Leaders – Cooperation

- Principle and Preference – Proverbs 3:5,6

Three Attitudes Elders and Members can Exercise to Love each other

1. Humility – Clothing yourselves with it...
2. Trustfulness – Casting all your cares...
3. Sobriety – Keeping alert about your enemy...

Visualize what can happen when we relate to one another in this way

Application:

1. As an Elder or deacon, what is God saying to you, today?
2. As a member or adherent of PTC, what is God saying to you about your attitude toward leaders, as we seek to go forward?

Discussion Questions based on 1 Peter 5:1-11

1. Overall, do you feel encouraged by what the Lord is doing at PTC in these days? Why or why not?
2. Read 1 Peter 5:1-11. What encouragement might an elder receive by reading Peter's opening words in vs 1?
3. Why is the image of the elders as shepherds among God's "flock" an appropriate image of their service?
4. What responsibilities of elders in this list stand out to you and why?
5. What encouragement is there for elders to serve well?
6. In verses 5, there is an exhortation to the "younger". Is "cooperation" a bad word?
7. Discuss how the attitudes of verses 5 – 9 apply to elders and members, as addressed in the message this week.
8. How does Peter's encouragement in vs 10 and 11 encourage all of us to "hang in there" despite the suffering that faithful service often entails?
9. As a further encouragement about how to regard elders consider the exhortation of Hebrews 13:7, 17.

Pray for the newly elected elders and deacons to live and serve according to these standards and pray for the members and adherents of PTC to have the right attitude and trust God together for His blessing for the future.