

Qualifications for Elders at Resonate Church

** Based on 1 Timothy 3*

1. Relation to God

- A man – masculine leader
- Above reproach – what you are known for among those who see your life?
- Able to teach – effective Bible communicator
- Not a new convert – mature Christian

2. Relation to Family

- Husband of one wife – one woman man, sexually pure (this does not require a man to be married, as Paul, Timothy, Jesus, and widowed men could qualify)
- Has obedient children – successful father
- Manages family well – provides for, leads, organizes, loves

3. Relation to Self

- Temperate – mentally and emotionally stable
- Self controlled – disciplined life of sound decision making
- Not given to drunkenness – without addictions
- Not a lover of money – financially content and upright

4. Relation to Others

- Respectable – worth following and imitating
- Hospitable – welcomes strangers, especially non-Christians for evangelism
- Not violent – even tempered
- Gentle – kind, gracious, loving
- Not contentious – peaceable, not quarrelsome / divisive
- Good reputation with outsiders – respected by non-Christians

5. The Biblical Duties of Elders

- Prayer and Scripture study (Acts 6:4)
- Ruling/leading the church (1 Timothy 5:17)
- Managing the church (1 Timothy 3:45)

- Caring for people in the church (1 Peter 5:25)
- Giving account to God for the church (Hebrews 13:17)
- Living exemplary lives (Hebrews 13:7)
- Rightly using the authority God has given them (Acts 20:28)
- Teaching the Bible correctly (Ephesians 4:11, 1 Timothy 3:2)
- Preaching (1 Timothy 5:17)
- Praying for the sick (James 5:13-15)
- Teaching sound doctrine and refuting false teachings (Titus 1:9)
- Working hard (1 Thessalonians 5:12)
- Rightly using money and power (1 Peter 5:13)
- Protecting the church from false teachers (Acts 20:17-31)
- Disciplining unrepentant Christians (Matthew 18:15-17).

As imperfect men laboring in a sinful world, the elders in the church are given a difficult task. Consequently, they need an abundance of grace and wisdom from Jesus Christ, who is our Senior Pastor (1 Peter 5). They also need the people in their church to obey them and respect their God-given authority, so that their work is not a burden (Hebrews 13:17).