



CONNECTION QUESTION

How would you define a healthy church? Would you consider CrossWinds a healthy church? Why or why not?

BRINGING THE BIBLE TO LIFE

> Read 1 Peter 5:1-3.

What image does Peter use to describe church elders? Why is this an appropriate description of church leadership?

What qualities does a shepherd have that are important in leading a healthy church?

Read John 21:15-17. What does it mean to “exercise oversight”? Share a story of how one of your pastors has done this for you.

Why is it important that a leader in the church perform his duties willingly? Why is it important that a leader not be out for selfish gain or be domineering over others? What do these look like in real life?

Read Mark 10:35-45. What is the danger of church leadership not taking this passage seriously?



> Read 1 Peter 5:4.

Read Psalm 23:1; John 10:11. Who should elders be looking to as an example in their leadership? Why is this important? How does this raise their expectations while also being a relief?

Here Peter says that faithful elders will receive a reward at Jesus’ second coming. Is it wrong to be motivated by heavenly rewards?

> Read 1 Peter 5:5.

What responsibility does the congregation have in response to leaders in the church? What actions can we as church members take in order to be subject to the elders?

What would CrossWinds look like if the leaders and congregation obeyed Peter’s exhortations on a regular basis? How would this affect our church, our community, and our world?

NEXT STEPS

> Read Philippians 2:1-11.

What one thing can you as a leader or as a church member do this week to show humility and consider others more significant than yourself?