



Lesson 10: Church Leadership

Text: Ephesians 4:7-16

Key Thought: God gifts His church with people who lead.

1. Excluding church leaders for a moment, who do you feel are the most well known and influential leaders in our world today?

A.

What qualities or traits do both secular and spiritual leaders possess?

A.

What danger is there in churches hiring people to lead who only possess worldly skills?

A.

2. In this lesson we will discuss 2 types of spiritual leaders. Before doing so, what general facts/information do we learn about spiritual gifts/leaders from the following passages?

Romans 12:3-5; Ephesians 4:8

A.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 11

A.

3. The first church leader Paul mentions in our text are the Apostles (*Ephesians 4:11*). They were all personally called by Jesus and were eyewitnesses to the resurrected Jesus (*1 Corinthians 15:7-9*). All of the New Testament books were written during the age of the Apostles, which ended around A.D. 100, with John's death. Who were the two most visible Apostles and what activities did they spearhead? (*Galatians 2:7-9*)

A.

4. What did the Apostle's ministry entail?

Acts 4:33; 1 Thessalonians 2:13

A.

Acts 5:12; 2 Corinthians 12:12

A.

5. The second church leader Paul mentions in our text are the Prophets (*Ephesians 4:11*). Combined with the Apostles, what unique role/position did they have in the early church? (*Ephesians 2:19-21* key in verse 20)

A.

What unique gift do prophets possess? (*Acts 11:27-30*)

A.

6. Some believe in modern day prophets. What criteria was established in Deuteronomy 18:17-22 to weed out fakes? How many "prophets" would be left standing today if we used this criteria?

A.

7. What danger is there in seeking divine guidance through avenues other than the Bible, prayer, and godly counselors?

A.

Who or what should be excluded?

A.

Do you have a personal story of doing so yourself? If yes, share it with the group.

A.

8. As we close, spend a few moments reflecting on your current leadership roles both in and outside of the church. Beyond anything else, what determines how effective we'll be? (*Exodus 31:1-3*)

A.