




[LISTEN ONLINE TO:
*Elders and Deacons in
the Church*](#)



[SERMON OUTLINE](#)



[LOOK AT THE DISCUSSION
QUESTIONS FOR
APPLICATION AT YOUR HOME
FELLOWSHIP GROUP
MEETING THIS WEEK](#)

o November 9th 2008

Sermon notes

A WEEKLY RESOURCE FOR AIDING THE APPLICATION OF THIS
SUNDAY'S SERMON AT REDEEMER TO YOUR LIFE.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. What stereotype of Presbyterianism did you have before coming to Redeemer which ones are deserved or undeserved?
2. How has your prior church experience compared to how we practice church government at Redeemer?
3. Pick one of the 6 points of Presbyterian government and discuss why it is so important?
4. How would you respond to someone who said "Denominations divide." Or "It doesn't matter what kind of church government you have, all that matters is if you love the Lord."

SERMON OUTLINE

Elders and Deacons in the Church

Pastor Tony Felich

November 9th 2008

Three basic patterns of church government have been practiced:

1. Episcopalianism: the rule of the church by monarchical bishops.
2. Congregationalism: the rule of the church by every member and the independence of every congregation from all others.
3. Presbyterianism: the rule of the church by multiple elders chosen by the congregation.

Presbyterian governance most resembles the Biblical pattern:

1. There is no distinction between "elders" and "bishops", these represent the same office and order. (Titus 1:5-7, Acts 20:17,28)
2. Each congregation and center of leadership is to have a plurality of elder, not one-man rule. (Acts 14:23, 20:17, Phil. 1:1)
3. These elders have oversight of the church and are thus responsible to rule/shepherd the congregation. (Acts 20:28, 1 Peter 5:2-3, 1 Tim. 3, Titus 1,1 Thess. 5:12, Hebrews 13:7,17,24, Matthew 18, etc).
4. The elders are assisted in their ministry by "deacons" who give attention to the physical needs of the church and the ministry of mercy. (Phil. 1:1, Acts 6:1-6, 1 Tim. 3:8-13)
5. Hence, there are 2 offices in the church: Elder and Deacon. Office bearers are chosen by the members of the congregation, but must be examined, confirmed, and ordained by the present leadership (Acts 6:5-6; 13:1-3; 1 Tim. 4:14)
6. Members of the church have the right to appeal disputed matters in the congregation to their elders for resolution, and if the dispute is with those local elders, to appeal to the regional governing body (presbytery) or beyond that, to the whole general assembly (Acts 15).

Redeemer Happenings



ISI Men's Bible Study – Saturday the 15th

from 7:30 to 9:00am., Room 43