

Jesus Gives us Better Leaders - Hebrews 13:7-19
Notes, Family Worship, Bible Reading

Notes from the Sermon

Have you ever had a truly awful boss? I mean, someone who, if you or other employees weren't constantly cleaning up their messes, their business would circle the drain fast? Or maybe a teacher who maybe wasn't the best at communicating to students how to do that difficult math problem, but act confident that they are right and you are wrong anyway? I think most of us have some sort of experience in that way, and some of us have had that type of experience in the church. Many of us come from backgrounds where the pastor or deacons or leaders of the church truly did us wrong, were false teachers, had hidden sin that came to light and disqualified them, pretended to know what they were doing but were inept, etc. And, as happens often, they leave the church in a wreck, with wrecked lives, false or weak converts, and a lot of people confused as to what just happened.

In our text today, Hebrews 13:7-19, we examine what the writer of Hebrews says about a church who had good leaders, Elders (Pastors) whose qualifications were sound and were identifiable by a few attributes:

- 1) They spoke the word of God
- 2) They lived a way of life and faith worthy of imitation
- 3) They protected their people from false teaching
- 4) They led the people into true worship of God
- 5) They tilted their eyes to Christ, not to the things of this world
- 6) They were accountable for the souls of the flock of the Church
- 7) They did these tasks with joy and without grumbling

However, while the Elders of this and every church have a tremendous task and responsibility, the people of the church also are called to:

- 1) Remember their Elders
- 2) Boot them out if they are false teachers
- 3) Worship God in spirit and truth
- 4) Be generous in doing good and in sharing your resources with others
- 5) Obey your Elders in submission because they are guardians of your souls
- 6) Pray for your Elders so that they don't fall into sin or sway from the truth

This call is hard when you have been hurt in the past, and yet, the call is clear: If your elders are Godly men who preach the Word, proclaim the Gospel, love the body joyfully, and seek the good of God's people, obey and submit to them, follow them as they follow Christ, and they will guard and protect you from all the winds of false teaching that blow at all times all around us. As an Elder of this church, I (Darin) can say I and the other Elders wake up daily praying for this church, seeking out every possible way to make you a disciple who truly treasures Christ as your overwhelming Joy, and wants to see every person in this church grow in passion and knowledge of their God. So, follow us; and if ANYONE ever stands up and preaches anything other than Christ and Him crucified as our supreme joy and comfort in life and in death, kick them or us out!

Bible Reading for the Week

Daily Bible Readings

Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Acts 15	Acts 16	Acts 17	Acts 18	Acts 19	Acts 20	Acts 21

Reading from this past week's sermon: Hebrews 13:7-19

Reading in preparation for this coming Sunday: Hebrews 13:20-25

Family Worship

Song - *Jesus Does*

https://youtu.be/qiT8vUM1dpl?si=LHH4f_SgAPDiYF5v

Gospel Project

Unit: God Sees and Hears

Story: The Ark Was Captured

Big Picture Question: How does God care for His creation?

Answer: God loves and rules over His creation according to His perfect plan.

Scripture: 1 Samuel 4-6

New City Catechism

Question 21: What sort of Redeemer is needed to bring us back to God?

Answer: One who is truly human and also truly God.

Verse: Isaiah 9:6

Hebrews 13:7-19

- What does the author mean when he says, "Remember your leaders?" What are some practical ways we can follow this command?
- Who are the Christian leaders from your life and story who have made the biggest impact and kept watch over your soul? What about their life and ministry shaped you? (Maybe an idea - send this person an encouragement note his week)
- We no longer make animal sacrifices to God? What are the sacrifices we make according to our text, and what does this look like in real life?
- What are some ways that people in the church can make the ministry of their elders and deacons a joy?

Prayer

*Pray for our graduates and their life transition from high school, college, graduate school and any other educational journey.

*Pray for your Elders, thank God for them, and pray that God would direct them as they lead Genesis.