

**Elder Roles**  
**Grace Covenant Church**  
**Austin, Texas**

**Introduction**

We see that Elders are quintessential examples of how to follow Christ. We lead the church through example, direction and oversight. We desire to “never do ministry alone,” that we, can disciple others as we do ministry.

**Shepherding Sheep**

- 1) Model spiritual leadership and maturity, individually and as a team of elders, so others can learn to follow Christ by our example (I Cor 11:1)
- 2) Teach the Word, either directly, in settings ranging from 1:1 discipleship to small groups to classes to congregation, or indirectly, encouraging and exhorting others to ensure the teaching of sound doctrine (2 Tim 4:2)
- 3) Pray, individually and collectively, and, by example and teaching, lead others to offer prayers of adoration, confession, thanksgiving and supplication (Eph 6:18)
- 4) Make disciples, individually as elders and by encouraging the church body to be engaged in this process, by evangelizing non-believers and developing believers to maturity. The discipleship efforts of the elders should result in the development of those men who God may call as elders. (Matt 28:19-20)
- 5) Preserve unity of the body and purity in life and doctrine, by warning the factious, encouraging the timid, helping the weak, and seeking to reconcile those who are wayward (Eph 4:3; I Thess 5:14, Matt 18:15-17)

**Shepherding the Flock (in the spirit of Exodus 19)**

- 1) Serve as stewards of GCC’s vision, purpose, and values, ensuring adherence to the existing statements/documents, and updating them when appropriate
- 2) Work with the pastoral executive team to set strategic priorities, ensuring all staff and lay leaders are working toward common goals and objectives
- 3) While adhering to doctrinal purity, assist the pastors in keeping GCC “relevant” by staying abreast of local, regional, national and international trends and issues

**Administrative Oversight**

Oversee key administrative areas of the church’s business, by delegating to capable church members the direct oversight of: legal issues, financial stewardship, facilities stewardship, constitutional issues & personnel management