

I. POINT: YOUR VOTE IS A MEANS TO FORM & FOLLOW (officer elections 2/14/15; Heb.13:17f; 1Pt.5:1f,5; see Acts 6:3; Dt.1:13)

II. INTRODUCTION

A. NOT JUST CREDIBILITY BUT ALSO EFFECTIVENESS (*type*, “spiritual formation”; Rom.12:2; 1Pt.1:14 *versus* Rom.8:29; Phil.3:10,21)

B. NOT JUST OFFICERS BUT EVERY CHRISTIAN (*imitation*; 1Tm.4:12; 3:1f /1Pt.2:21; Lk.10:37)

III. WORDS & WORKS: EXHORTATIONS & EXAMPLES

A. PETER: FORMED & FORMING (1Pt.5:1,3,5; see Col.3:10)

B. TIMOTHY: FORMED & FORMING (1Tm.3:1f with 4:12; see 11,13,16)

C. TITUS: FORMED & FORMING (Tt.1:6-9 with 2:7,8)

D. THREE: FORMED & FORMING (Phil.2:4&21; 2:8&30; 2:5f&3:7f)

E. PAUL: FORMED & FORMING (1Cor.4:14-17; 10:31-11:1; see Phil.3:14,17(Heb.13:7); 4:9; 1Th.1:6,7; 2:14; 2Th.3:7,9; 2Tm.3:10f,14f)

F. JESUS: FORMED & FORMING (Col.1:13f; Heb.1:3; 5:8,9; 7:28 & 12:2; Rom.8:29; Phil.3:21; Col.3:10; 1Pt.2:21; Jn.13:165; see membership vow #3)

IV. POINT: YOUR VOTE IS A MEANS TO FORM & FOLLOW (officer elections 2/14/15; Heb.13:17f; 1Pt.5:1f,5; see Acts 6:3; Dt.1:13)

V. FINAL ENCOURAGEMENTS

A. LEAD BY A FORMATIVE EXAMPLE! (1Tm.3:1f & 4:12; Tt.1:5f & 2:7,8; 1Pt.5:3,1f; *ordination vow #8*; see 1Cor.4:14-17; *baptismal vow #5*)

B. BE FORMED & LED BY CHRIST THROUGH THE OFFICERS YOU CHOOSE! (Dt.1:13; Acts 6:3; see 1Tm.3:1f; 4:12; Tt.1:5f; 2:7,8; 1Pt.5:3,5)

C. FORM & LEAD THOSE WHOM CHRIST HAS GIVEN TO YOU! (1Cor.4:14-17; 2Tm.3:10f,14f)

D. IMITATION IS NOT MIMICRY: YOUR OWN PERSON FORMED IN CHRIST! (Gal.5:22,23; Jms.3:17,18; 1Tm.3:1f; Tt.1:5f; Phil.4:8,9; 2Tm.3:10f; see Rom.12:3f; 14:1f)

Discussion question:

*Brethren, what shall **WE do**? (see Acts 2:37f)*