

Life in Community
A Community of Distinct, but Fallible Leadership
1 Timothy 5:17-25

- I. Supporting the Leadership for the Work (17-18)
 - A. “Ruling well” is generally associated with demonstrated a keen ability to teach the Word
 - B. Those who do so should be, as far as the congregation is able, supported financially for their work
- II. When the Leadership Needs Public Accountability (19-20)
 - A. Accusations of sinful behavior can be received against the elders
 - 1. Yet, this should be done cautiously
 - 2. It should also be done with a sense of certainty (2-3 witnesses)
 - B. Those elders who continue in their sin (unrepentant) should be brought before the church just like any other unrepentant Christian
 - 1. This is for the benefit of the sinner
 - 2. This is for the benefit of the congregation
- III. A Call For Discretion in Leadership and a Pursuit of Righteousness (21-25)
 - A. Everything done in the church community should be done with a righteous consistency (21)
 - B. The setting apart of leadership should not in haste, but with patience and wisdom
 - C. Paul’s seemingly random medical advice?!

- D. Sometimes it is easy to see the sin of others; sometimes their sin is only evident after the damage is done
- E. Good deeds are obvious as such; sin cannot be hidden long term – especially among the teaching leadership