

## **“What is the Leadership of the Church?”**

### **I Timothy 3:1-13**

**Leadership Line-Up...** According to the Scriptures, Jesus is the supreme leader of His church (Ephesians 1:22-23, 4:15, & 5:23). But Jesus has entrusted some in the church to be officially recognized leaders beneath Him. These persons include pastors and deacons.

**What are Pastors?** Pastors are *godly* men who have been called and equipped to *spiritually lead* the church. Pastors should make it their goal to help the church become what Jesus wants it to be – holy. To do this, pastors must devote themselves to prayer, studying and teaching the Bible, counseling, discipleship, encouraging, training, evangelism, etc.

**What are Deacons?** Deacons are *godly* persons who have been called and equipped to lead the church in the area of *service*. Deacons enable the pastors to more fully devote themselves to the spiritual ministry by shouldering much of the burden of other physical responsibilities (see Acts 6:1-7).

#### **Questions for Discussion/Reflection:**

1. What is the main difference between what pastors do and what deacons do?
2. Why are both pastors and deacons essential to the health of the church?
3. What can you do to encourage your pastors?
4. How are you serving in the church? If you're not serving, then what could you begin doing?