

Leadership Authority in the Church

**“When you see a good man, think of emulating him; when you see a bad man, examine your heart.”
Chinese proverb**

1. Jesus established the Church on the truth of His identity.

Matthew 16:15-18a (NIV)
¹⁵ “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church...

1. Jesus established the Church on the truth of His identity.

1 Timothy 3:15 (NIV)
 you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

2. Jesus commissioned the Church to minister with His authority.

Matt 16:18-19 (NIV)
 ...and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

2. Jesus commissioned the Church to minister with His authority.

Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)
¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

3. The Apostles established leadership authority in the Churches.

Acts 11:22-25 (NIV)

²² News of this reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. ²³ When he arrived and saw the evidence of the grace of God, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. ²⁴ He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord.

²⁵ Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul,

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Acts 14:21-23 (NIV)

²¹ They preached the good news in that city and won a large number of disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, ²² strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. "We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God," they said. ²³ Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust.

4. Leadership authority established in Christian Community Church.

- Pastor Bob Buchan from New Albany OH**
- Pastor Steve Campbell from Columbus OH**
- Pastor Mark Harrell from Somerset KY**

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Elders at CCCN work closely with the Pastors to provide for the spiritual care of the people.

Acts 20:28 (NIV)

²⁸ Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.

4. Leadership authority established in Christian Community Church.

Elders at CCCN serve as the trustees of the corporation and have the governmental responsibility for the Church.

5. How each member can help the elders to successfully lead CCCN.

- Pray for the pastors and elders.**
- Keep your heart attitude right.**

Hebrews 13:17-18 (MSG)

¹⁷ Be responsive to your pastoral leaders. Listen to their counsel. They are alert to the condition of your lives and work under the strict supervision of God. Contribute to the joy of their leadership, not its drudgery. Why would you want to make things harder for them? ¹⁸ Pray for us. We have no doubts about what we're doing or why, but it's hard going and we need your prayers. All we care about is living well before God.

5. How each member can help the elders to successfully lead CCCN.

Prepare yourself for leadership.
