



Shorter Study

■ **Open the session with prayer.**

■ **Read together 1 Timothy 5:17-18.**

- What does it mean for an elder to be considered “worthy of double honour”?
- Why is this “double honour” especially directed to “those who labour in preaching and teaching”?
- How does the quotation of Deuteronomy 25:4 and Luke 10:7 regarding the “muzzling of an ox” and the “labourer deserving his wages” relate to teaching elders? What is it referring to?
- What does Paul’s instruction here say about the status of teaching in a) the life of the church and; b) the role of eldership?

■ **Watch the video entitled “Session 7 – Know the Bible”.**

Session Overview:

1. All elders are called to be “apt to teach”.
2. Some elders will be specially called to dedicate time to teaching.
3. Not all elders will be called to preaching but all will need to use God’s Word to feed God’s people.
4. Therefore elders are to:
 - a. Love God’s Word.
 - b. Shape their life according to the Word.
 - c. Love the people they are teaching.
 - d. Be prayerful when taking up God’s Word.

Reflection Questions:

1. What does the biblical metaphor of “feeding sheep” say about the purpose of teaching the Bible? What characteristics does it convey about the ministry of teaching?
2. How does the specialised ministry of your pastor/minister intersect with the teaching role of all elders? How do the two relate to each other?
3. Do you feel competent to teach? If not, what are the obstacles?

■ **Close in prayer.**



Longer Study

■ **Open the session with prayer.**

■ **Read together 1 Timothy 5:17-18.**

- What does it mean for an elder to be considered “worthy of double honour”?
- Why is this “double honour” especially directed to “those who labour in preaching and teaching”?
- How does the quotation of Deuteronomy 25:4 and Luke 10:7 regarding the “muzzling of an ox” and the “labourer deserving his wages” relate to teaching elders? What is it referring to?
- What does Paul’s instruction here say about the status of teaching in a) the life of the church and; b) the role of eldership?

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Theological Questions:

1. What does the biblical metaphor of “feeding sheep” say about the purpose of teaching the Bible? What characteristics does it convey about the ministry of teaching?
2. How does the specialised ministry of your pastor/minister intersect with the teaching role of all elders? How do the two relate to each other?
3. Do you believe that the Word of God is the highest form of comfort, encouragement, help that you can offer someone as elder? Why/why not?

