

**Appointing
Elders/Shepherds/
Teaching Pastors**

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if di congregation does no bi don elders, di defacto leaders or di preacher go ask di congregation to suggest men dem dey consider qualified be dia elders. Di men who desire to assume dis spiritual work are presented go di church as per whole for dia approval.

for churches wit elders, di following are sabi methods bin use by various churches. Dia fit be oda methods no bi identified.

1. The current elders choose a man or men and ask di church for dia approval.
2. The elders notify di church dat any man who desires be an elder and considers imself qualified suppose make di congregation sabi. If di congregation agrees im na qualified im becomes an elder.
3. The church na requested to submit names for men be elders. Dis men are contacted to sight if dem desire take perform di work for an elder, if dem be considered qualified dem become elders.
4. The elders request di congregation to submit di names for men dem dey consider qualified to serve. Di elders then select men from dis list and
 - a. ask di congregation to approve or
 - b. members go don two weeks to resolve any qualifications wahala.
5. A broda desiring to serve become elder de ask di current elders if im fit become an elder.
 - a. They gree and im becomes an elder or
 - b. They gree and seek di approval for di church.
6. The elders select non-shepherd men be facilitators for di selection process and identify dem go di congregation. Pipo are requested to submit names for men dem dey consider qualified be elders go facilitator. Di facilitators go meet wit each man to determine if im considers imself biblically qualified and if im desires to do di work for an elder. If dem desire dem be give a dub for di role for a shepherd to study (some churches dey consider a sermon on top shepherds and dia work sufficient). If afta a week's study, dos men who gree wit di work identified for di role for a shepherd, di facilitators go present dem go di congregation and seek dia approval. Pipo go don two weeks to resolve any qualifications wahala. Pipo having wahala suppose go di pesin being considered to resolve wahala. If wahala are no bi resolved dem be to contact di facilitator for assistance. Men having no unresolved wahala go de appointed as elders.

compiler's chook mouth: di above are a few examples for methods bin use for selecting elders. Di compiler's preferred method na method dat involves di entire congregation without di involvement for di current elders. One resemble to method six.

di role for a shepherd

“he find some [as] apostles, and (greek dé) some [as] prophets for and (dé) some [as] prophets, and (dé) some [as] proclaimers for gud bin dey, and (dé) some [as] shepherds and (greek kai)1 teachers unto di perfecting for di saints, for a work for ministration, for a building up for di bodi for di christ, taya we fit all com go di unity for di faith and for di recognition for di pikin for god, go perfect man, go measure for stature for di fulness for di christ, wey we fit no bi be babes, tossed and borne wey concern by everi wind for di teaching, for di sleight for men, for craftiness, unto di artifice for leading astray, and, being true for love, we fit chop up to am [in] all tins, wey be di head — di christ; from whom di whole bodi, being fitly joined together and united, through di supply for everi joint, according go di working for di measure for each single part, di chop up for di bodi doth mek for di building up for itself for love.” ylt ephesians 4:11-16. “[t]o equip di saints for di work for ministry, for building up di bodi for christ, until we all attain go di unity for di faith and for di knowledge for di pikin for god, to mature manhood, go di measure for di stature for di fulness for christ; so wey we fit no longer be pikin, tossed to and fro and carried wey concern wit everi wind for doctrine, by di cunning for men, by dia craftiness for deceitful wiles. Rather, speaking di true for love, we are to grew up for everi way into am wey be di head, into christ, from whom di whole bodi, joined and knit together by everi joint wit which it na supplied, wen each part na working properly, de make bodily growth and upbuilds itself for love. (rsv ephesians 4:11-16)

a kpatakpata for di work for shepherds:

- a. Teach, feed, equip, and bring to maturity.
- b. Exhort, admonish, edify and strengthen.
- c. Promote unity and harmony.
- d. Comfort di physically but primarily spiritually weak and sick.
- e. Seek and restore dos who don drifted or are drifting away.
- f. Pray for sef, brethren under dia send, and dos no bi for christ.
- g. Warn di brethren for dangers lurking for di pathway for life.
- h. Prepare god’s saints for work for service, (show & tell).
- i. Convict lie-lie teachers and dia lie-lie teachings; so we go fit: 1) one who denies christ as god for a human bodi.
2) one na saved without being cleansed by christ’s blood. 3) salvation na earned by wetin a pesin accomplishes.

(1 timothy 3:2-7; titus 1:6-11; 1 peter 5:2-4; acts: 20:28-30; ephesians 4:11-15; ezekiel 34:2-5; 1 thessalonians 5:12-14; james 5:14 and luke 15:3)

paul wrote for 1 tim 3:1-7 and titus 1 dat for men take perform di shepherding function dem needed to don some kain characteristics. “here na trustworthy say: if pesin sets im heart on top being an overseer, im desires a noble task. Now di overseer must be above reproach, di husband for but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, no bi give to drunkenness, no bi violent but small small, no bi quarrelsome, no bi a lover for kudi. Im must manage im own family wella and see say im pikin obey am wit proper respect. (if pesin does no bi sabi how to manage im own family, how fit im take send for god's church?) im must no bi be a recent convert, or im fit become conceited and fall under di same judgment as di devil. Im

must also get gud reputation wit outsiders make im no go fall into disgrace and into di devil's trap. " some early translations don "office for a bishop" rather than being an overseer.

"overseer"² – some bibles don mistranslated di greek word episkopeés as "office for bishop. " bishop na a title for various goment officials, later bin use for positions for di catholic and angelicin organizations (etymonline. com). Di word "office" na no bi for di greek text.

² the greek word episkopeés way watchman, sentinel, and guardian (thus an overseer). For biblical greek episkopeés na di act by which god looks into and searches komot di ways, deeds, and character, for men, for order to adjudge dia lot accordingly, weda joyous or sad; inspection, investigation, visitation wen im shall search di souls for men; i. e. , for di

taim for divine judgment. (thayer's)

³ a "noble task," – a task na work, or function, no bi an office. It na from di greek word érgou meaning an act, deed, or a tin do.

if wetin be commonly referred to as "qualifications" de viewed as "character traits" or tools to accomplish di work for instructing, training, and guarding, then dem take on top a different meaning.

1 timothy 3 and titus 1. Author's understanding

hold firmly go di message r for christ to sabi christ and im apostles' teachings

above reproach no bi open to censure

gud reputation, blameless gud reputation wit outsiders

di husband for one wife no bi a polygamist, no bi still marry to im wife no bi give a certificate for divorcement

temperate, sober-minded uses gud judgment

self-controlled disciplined, no bi a loose cannon

respectable orderly, gud behavior

hospitable takes send for di needs for odas

able to teach powerful for communicating

no bi give to drunkenness no bi drink excessively, no brawler

no bi a striker (violent) no bi combative or quick-tempered

small small kind and considerate for odas

no bi quarrelsome no bi contentious – "my understanding na from di bible" meaning yours na no bi

no bi long throat does no bi put material tins first

manage im own family family live for inside income no bi a spendthrift

no bi be a recent convert needs to face trials as christian

di shepherding work na identified by three greek words.

elders (gk. presbuteros) – an adjective to denote seniority, older man.

overseer/watchman/guardian/sentinel (gk. eepiskopeés) - one who alerts odas for pending danger, watches ova, guards, inspects, takes send for dia needs, and teaches. (thayer)

shepherds (gk. poimen— a provider for nourishment and protector against dangers.

tey tey elders are be mature men, don knowledge for god's go for im church, and are willing to put di welfare for im pipo before im own welfare, it suppose be evident dat it na work for love, no bi an office be filled or a position for prestige.

biblical elder/shepherd/overseer/watchman/guardian need to don:

a. A close relationship wit god and christians for im congregation.

b. A gud knowledge and understanding for di teachings for christ and im apostles to prepare christians for dia ministry for serving god by doing im go and to bring dem to maturity into god's nature.

c. The ability to recognize lie-lie teachings and provide opportunities for dos under dia send to sabi, recognize, and acquire di ability to refute such teachings. , for dia taim a prevalent teaching na all flesh na evil. Jesus fit no bi don been for an evil human flesh; na im be say, im na juss a phantom – gnosticism.

d. The knowledge for di difference between an understanding/opinion and a lie-lie teaching.

e. The ability to lead without forcing dia opinions on top odas.

f. A clear understanding for di spiritual tools needed for performing di shepherding functions and proficiency for dia use to defend dos under im send, to lead fellow christians to spiritual food, to mature dem into di likeness for christ, and to defend dem from spiritual predators.

paul wrote for di persecution for christians by di jews and romans. Na im be say, dos desiring di work for shepherding de willing to put dia live for di line to protect dia fellow brethren. Di spiritual well-being for di brethren na plenti important than im physical bodi. It no bi a position for honor, power, or prestige but a dangerous work dat required:

1. The desire to protect ya brethren even if it costs im life.

2. Able to teach way, to relate dia teaching and concerns effectively (from di greek word didaktikos meaning skillful for teaching -thayer).

3. Patience - no bi to fly off di handle or be quick to judge.

4. Compassion, loving and forgiving.

5. Intimate relationship wit god's people's pain, sorrows, and struggles.

6. Righteous men, no bi pretenders.

god's warning to ezekeiel de apply go di shepherds for im spiritual kingdom. "the word for di lord com to me: (ezekeiel) "son for man, prophesy against di shepherds for israe (their leaders); prophesy and tok give dem: 'this na wetin di sovereign lord says: woe go di shepherds for israe who only take send for themselves! suppose no bi shepherds take send for di flock? you chop di curds, clothe yourselves wit di wool, and slaughter di choice animals, but you no take send for di flock. You get no bi

- a. strengthened di weak
- b. healed di sick
- c. bound up di injured.
- d. brought back di strays
- e. searched for di lost. "

isn't dis di work or function para para testament shepherds suppose be performing?