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Inspirational Thoughts

“Every member of God’s church has been called into some ministry. All are part of a priesthood of believers called out from the world to minister for Christ. This priestly ministry serves people both inside and outside of the church. Elders, like all members of Christ’s body, are divinely called to their ministry. There are, in fact, two sources of an elder’s appointment: (1) they are called by God and (2) they are elected by their congregation.

**Called by God**.-the call to be an elder is a call from God. The church recognizes elders’ gifts for leadership and elects them to the office; God gives the necessary gifts and creates the opportunity by guiding the church in its selection. Elders who realize that their calling comes first from God, will most appreciate how important and serious is their leadership responsibility.

**Elected by Congregation**.-Elders who feel they have been called by God, nevertheless, have no official position or authority in the church unless they have also been elected by the congregation. The eldership should not be given to people who covet the position as a means of increasing their own personal influence and authority. Elders should not be elected because they already hold some position of importance in their community. They are not to be chosen because they have been successful in business or because they give large amounts of money to the church. Elders are chosen because the church recognizes their call from God and sees in them the necessary qualifications for their work.

Elders are usually elected for one year. The church may reelect them, but is under no obligation to do so. Elders not currently elected by the church have no authority in the congregation despite their previous position and ordination.”

Elder’s Handbook, p. 33

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**PRAYER POINTS**

**The Elders of:**

* **Cleveland Temple SDA Church**
* **South East POS SDA Church**
* **Revival and Reformation among Elders**