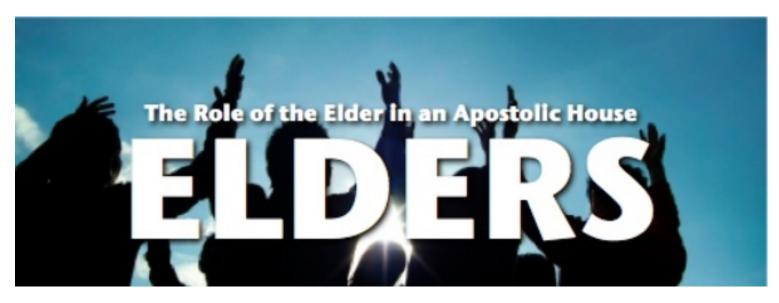
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A Confirming Word
Kate received this word from
the Lord regarding our

## The Importance of Elders

## **Laying Biblical Foundations**

We had a incredible weekend at AGIHOS with Andre and Dienie Kotze laying an excellent foundation on biblical elders. At the start, a few people shared their understanding of elders and it was clear that we did not have a full or accurate picture of eldership.

Dienie gave us a biblical overview of the role of elders in the Old Testament from the time of Moses. She focused on the fact that their responsibility was to serve God's people and not to simply have a position. She also pointed out that both Eli and Samuel did not appoint elders according to biblical standards and it was disastrous for Israel. The right way to appoint elders is to fast and pray and seek Gods face for the right people.

Andre taught us that elders need to have their own vital relationship with God out of which their service as an elder should stem. He explained that we are all called to be elders in our latter years, but the challenge is whether we

Elders Seminar before it was held.

The *presbyters* or elders must be positioned because the house cannot function without them.

The elders must be good teachers or instructors and they must be willing to sacrifice. They must be devoted and diligent. (Luke 12:48) They will protect, feed and teach the ministry. They must be able to govern. The qualifications are in 2 Tim 3:17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

They should have strong character and integrity (Exodus 12: 21) and also wisdom. (Exodus 18:20 - 21) Elders must intercede, teach and judge righteously. They should also be influential in foundational life (Acts 14: 23). They relate directly to the apostle and should protect Apostle Natasha. Elders must not be new converts. We should follow the pattern of Moses in Numbers 11:16-17.

qualify according to the biblical standards. It takes years of walking closely with the Lord and allowing Him to shape your life and character in order to become an elder, but it is something that every Christian should strive towards. He then spent time discussing the qualifications and functions of elders in the church. At the end of these sessions, we all felt that we definitely did NOT qualify to be elders. Dienie then finished out the teaching explaining the process and appointment of elders.

This was an important time for AGIHOS as a scriptural foundation of eldership was established for the House. When we finished the day, one could sense the spirit of the fear of the Lord hovering over us. We encourage everyone to get this series of teaching and work through it. We believe that true, biblical eldership is an important governmental function that God is restoring back to the church and society.

Blessings
The AGIHOS Team

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