

Case Study

Church Name: Victory Baptist Church (Shepherdsville Ky)

Pastor's Name: Stephen Crenshaw

City/Town: Shepherdsville Ky (4420 Ridge Rd)

What were your motivations in making this transition?

1. Biblically convicted. Paul established elders in every church.
2. Training and equipping those who have the qualifications.
3. Team Model vs. Solo model. My capacity for Shepherding is limited being Bi-Vocational. This model helps maintain the integrity and holiness of the body.

What steps did you take in the process?

1. 5 years prior to the vote I selected 8 men and began training them. Out of the 8, 3 men held the qualifications.
2. Began training the qualified men in depth. From our studies we began to look deeper into Elder led congregationalism.
3. 1 year before the vote, we began re-writing the Bylaws and constitution.
4. 6 Months to Vote we began preaching and teaching through the ideas.
5. Day of our Vote, we had a unanimous decision.
6. Implementation process. Nominate Elders, clean membership role, educate the church more on meaningful membership.

What challenges or hurdles did you face?

1. I can honestly say, I had no roadblocks in this process. Once trust was established, the congregation was willing and ready for a change.
2. Removing inactive Members is always a tough pill for people to swallow.

What were the benefits of this transition?

1. Training men who would otherwise slip through the cracks or be used in the wrong role.
2. Clarify offices of the church, Elder, Deacon, and the role of members.
3. Establish accountability within the leadership. One man should not be able to run the church as he pleases. Elders help maintain direction and Doctrine.