

SO THE BODY OF CHRIST MAY BE BUILT UP....

THE TASK OF LEADERSHIP

The leadership team at Mid-County is broad-based and includes many men and women who serve in a number of different capacities: teachers, group leaders, deacons and ministry leaders. However, the New Testament focuses on two roles in particular:

- **ELDERS—**

have the responsibility of shepherding—caring for and overseeing the church. (1 Peter 5:1-3, Acts 20:27-28)

- **EVANGELISTS—**

have the responsibility of teaching—feeding and equipping the church. (1 Timothy 4:11-13)

The responsibility of an elder or an evangelist is fundamentally that of discipling men and women to maturity in Christ, equipping them for works of ministry. As a Shepherding Group leader, your responsibility is to assist the elders and evangelists in their work. As you closely collaborate with them in this task, your own life and ministry will be fruitful (Eph. 4:11-13).

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- Are people being transformed into the likeness of Christ?
- Are believers grounded in the Word?
- Are they maturing in Christ?
- Are they using their talents in service and ministry?
- Are they sharing their faith regularly with others?

“The first priority of the church should be to disciple men and women to maturity in Christ, and then to equip them to live their faith in every aspect of life and in every part of the world.”

- Charles Colson, *The Body*

“It was Christ who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ....From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”

- Ephesians 4:7-13, 16

