

Summary.

- (1) The apostles themselves led the training of new leaders.
- (2) They taught them doctrine, the words of Jesus, how to care for churches, how to keep themselves pure, and how to deal with 'wolves'.
- (3) They coached new leaders, on the job, for about three years.
- (4) Nobody had to pay for coaching.
- (5) Local leaders coached other, in turn, on the job.

Apply. Do the following.

- (1) Pray for your cells and churches, that the Lord raise up pastoral leaders for them.
- (2) Plan to set up chains of pastoral leaders who will coach others.
- (3) Indicate on your map which churches have appointed leaders.
- (4) Lay a plan to appoint an elder or temporary leader in every cell and church that has none.
- (5) Lay a plan to have someone coach every new leaders.
- (6) Lay a plan to make copies of T&M booklet #24 for each new leader who will have a coach.
- (7) Lay a plan to ensure that every elder starts coaching new leaders in cells and new churches.

Test. Tick the best answer to each query.

A. Traits of biblically-qualified elders include:

- ☐ Good character, manage own home well, able to teach.
- ☐ Bible-based education from an approved institution.
- ☐ Proficient in the official language and has a mellow preaching voice.

B. The biblical way to designate elders or shepherds in a new church is:

- ☐ Certification from denominational headquarters.
- ☐ Church members vote for several candidates.
- ☐ A church-planter or coach appoints one or more individuals.

C. Who normally trains elders or shepherds in new churches?

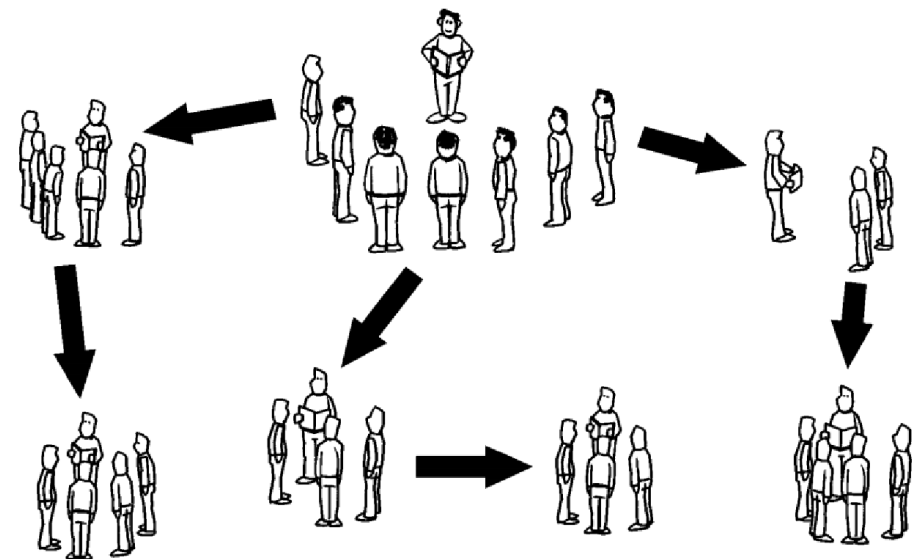
- ☐ Bible school or seminary teachers.
- ☐ The church planter or other leader who coaches them on the job.
- ☐ Each one remains responsible for his own learning and actions.

TRAIN & MULTIPLY® COACHING for Continual Church Reproduction

Module 9 of 12

T&M coaches appoint and coach qualified church elders

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Module 9

T&M coaches appoint and coach qualified church elders

Module objective: Discover biblical appointment and coaching of elders

Learning objective: Learners lay plans to appoint elders and to coach them

Outcome objective: Coached elders lead, develop and reproduce churches

Read T&M study 49 *Let's Pastor*

Key scriptures: Mark 3.13-15, Acts 14.23-28, Titus 1.5-6

Story. Mister (or Miss) Faithful comes to ask Reverend Boss for some advice.

Faithful: 'Reverend Boss, I think God is calling me to become an elder like you. What must I do?'

Boss: 'First, you must become a faithful tithe payer, and attend my chapel for five years. You must also seek higher education. After that, you will have to attend bible school for three years. Later, you will become my assistant without pay for at least two years. Finally, the denominational council might assign you to a village pastorate.'

Faithful: 'But, Sir, I have already started and led cell groups in my neighbourhood. Doesn't that show that I am gifted for eldership?'

Boss: 'Not quite. You must also learn to speak English and read a shelf full of theology books.'

Faithful: 'I see.' (Faithful sadly turns and walks away.)

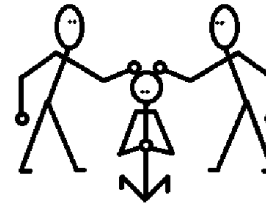
Reflect. 'How would you reply to Reverend Boss?' 'What advice would you give to Mister Faithful?'

Discover. Read the key scriptures, and reply to this query. 'How did Jesus and the apostles recognise and appoint new leaders?' Write your answers:

Summary.

- (1) Jesus appointed men as apostles, then coached them for about two years.
- (2) The apostles appointed elders in every church, in every community.
- (3) They chose individuals for their good character and ability to teach.

(4) Leaders were not sent away for education, nor did they come from far away.



Study. Supposed that you are designing a biblical training program for new leaders. Read **Acts 20:25-35** and reply to these queries. 'Who trained new leaders in apostolic churches?' 'In what skills did they train them?' 'Over what length of time?' Write your answers here:

Comment. In natural reproduction, there must be both a masculine actor and a feminine actor. When one church help start another church, the older one becomes a 'mother church' and the new one a 'daughter church'. This is the *feminine* side.

When Paul wrote to Timothy and to Titus, he called them 'my dear son.' He did not count them to be his assistants, his students or his servants. He treated them like sons, as they provided pastoral leadership to new churches and help them reproduce. This is the *masculine* side.

When you make maps of new churches, include on your maps the names of local leaders, showing whom each one coaches.

