



ETERNAL LIFE FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES & GLOBAL NETWORK

Expectations and Accountability of the Apostolic Council

Properly functioning leadership will keep in mind two important things: Expectations and Accountability. A clearly defined set of expectations along with a system of accountability for meeting those makes for a healthy relationship between leadership and the Servant Leader. The following is a list of things that I expect of those in leadership of the ELFGN Family and for which I will hold you accountable.

1. It is my expectation that when official meetings and/or functions are scheduled that you be on time and in place no later than 30 minutes prior to the start of your ministry responsibility. If in the event you are providentially hindered from being in place on time, I expect the courtesy of notification made to your Cell Group Leader, Pastor or Lay Member in Charge as soon as practical so a substitute can be obtained with time to prepare adequately. While I welcome suggestions, all substitutes must be approved by the Servant Leader or designee.
2. It is my expectation that you to take **full responsibility** for your personal area of ministry i.e. if you take it out, you put it back; if you dirty it, you clean it; if you break it, you fix it or replace it; if you turn it on, you turn it off; if you borrow it, you return it; if you empty it, you fill it etc. If in the event someone has not done so, and it falls to you to do it, I expect it to be done by you in a Christ-like manner with a servant's heart, knowing from Whom your reward will one day come.
3. It is my expectation that all matters of disagreement with leadership be dealt with using the pattern of **Matthew 18:15-17** and in the spirit **Galatians 6:1**. All differences are to be resolved by utilizing Biblical principles - always presenting a united front. Appropriate confidentiality will be observed in regard to pupil/parent and school and member/church matters. (**Titus 3:2 and Galatians 5:15**)
4. It is my expectation that as overseeing body that we financially support the ministry quarterly. (\$50.00 per council member per month)
5. It is my expectation that each department head submit a monthly report to headquarters no later than the 15th of every month.
6. It is my expectation that all ministry positions will have a written description of that position. While I welcome input from council members regarding possible staffing; it is my expectation that all ministry staff must be approved by this body collectively.

7. It is my expectation that all materials, methods, curriculums conform to the Doctrinal position of ELFGN and be in line with our philosophy and ministry goals and expectations. All teaching materials require approval for use in the teaching ministry is expected to be used and their curriculum guides followed as appropriate and that they do not conflict with ELFGN.
8. It is my expectation that a spirit of cooperation to exist between all members of this Apostolic Council, keeping mind that we're all working towards the same goal. Saving the lost and building people for kingdom!
9. It is my expectation that you view your inclusion in the fellowship as a part of the ELFGN ministry team as a fulfillment of God's call upon your life and that you feel there is no greater privilege than to be a part of this fellowship, evidenced by your punctuality, work ethic, enthusiasm, and submission to God ordained authority.
10. It is my expectation that you see your ministry responsibility in this fellowship as the primary reason God did not take you home to heaven the moment you accepted Christ a personal Savior.
11. It is my expectation that you fulfill your ministry responsibility in the amount of time it takes to fulfill it, no more and no less. By that I mean, that while a schedule is important, by the same token you're not a clock-watcher, displaying impatience when the scheduled time for departure is past.
12. It is my expectation that you will become a part of the soul winning efforts of this fellowship.
13. It is my expectation that the question will not be "Will I win souls?" but "When shall I win them?" Who is the one I being sent to lead?
14. It is my expectation that people will not be viewed as an interruption or obstacle on your way to ministry, but that they will be viewed as the primary reason for ministry.
15. It is my expectation that before questions of financial consideration, time constraints and feasibility are asked, that we first ask the question "What is the eternal value to God's Kingdom?"
16. It is my expectation that you follow the directions given you by the district leadership over you, without complaint, giving your full support both in word and in action.
17. It is my expectation that you would expect the Servant Leader(s) oversight of your God-given responsibilities to be fair, just, spirit-filled and servant minded. Not arbitrary or contentious, always keeping in mind the One whom we serve together in a spirit of humility and gratitude.

WHAT FELLOWSHIP PARTNERS CAN EXPECT FROM LEADERSHIP

You will often hear me say that every church needs FAT leaders. These are “Ministry Leaders” which are Faithful, Accountable, and Trainable. Each of us are on a journey to understand, pursue and take our next leap of faith with God and the gifts of the Five-Fold ministry to the next millennium and beyond. As leaders, this journey includes a commitment to becoming more Christ-Like in each of the following areas:

1. **A Commitment To A Growing Relationship With Jesus Christ:**

- A. *Commitment to the Lordship of Christ:*** God’s offer of salvation through Jesus Christ calls for a response of faith. That response is demonstrated throughout the New Testament by repentance, acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and Baptism by immersion. (UP-IN-OUT) Repentance involves a change of heart and mind that causes us to want to make Jesus the absolute Leader of our lives. When we commit our lives to Christ, we put our faith in Him to receive forgiveness of sins, eternal life and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Baptism is the public demonstration by which a believer is identified with Christ, His body the church, and a life of discipleship. The act is one done in faith and submission to the Lordship of Christ. **(Mark 1:9-11, Acts 2:38, Romans 6, Colossians 2:12)**
- B. *Development of Fasting, Prayer and Other Spiritual Disciplines:*** In order to grow in a relationship with Jesus Christ, a leader will begin to incorporate specific disciplines into their life. No relationship can grow without communication. As much as we need to communicate with our heavenly Father, He desires to communicate with us. In fact, he created us to fellowship with Him. The growing spiritual life of the leader will include disciplines such as regular prayer, Bible reading, fasting, and meditation on the Word. **(James 5:13-16, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).**

A Commitment to Finances/Stewardship As our creator, God has given us certain laws of love -gracious, caring guidelines to live by. When we follow those principles, we find deeper joy and greater fulfillment. Some of those guidelines relate to the money he has entrusted to our care, financial resources he urges us to generously share with others. Tithing is an obligation. Giving is from the heart. We cannot live and not give. From this ELFGN has accepted the theology of Free Will Giving. A New Testament Biblical giving principal based on four general types of giving:

- **Non-Cheerful Giving:** This believes free-will is right, but generally either struggle to or don't give in accordance to the paths of giving outlined in the New Testament Covenant.
- **Cheerful Tithe:** This follows the paths outlined in the Old Testament Covenant (OTC) to instruct them in their giving while cheerfully and willingly submitting themselves to that authority.
- **Cheerful Spirit Led Giving:** This follows the paths outlined in the New Testament Covenant (NTC) to instruct them in their giving and cheerfully and willingly submit themselves to that authority.
- **Non-cheerful Tithe:** This believes tithing is right, but generally either struggle to or don't give in accordance to the paths of giving outlined in the OTC.

- C. ***Speech***: As a leader, what we say has great influence. It is expected that a leader will be a model to those who follow him/her in their speech. The Bible speaks of our tongue as having tremendous power – both for good and evil (James 3). A leader is expected to guard their speech carefully, being positive and encouraging, building up the body - always - speaking the truth in love. (Ephesians 4:15).
 - D. ***Home/Family Life***: The first ministry responsibility for every leader is their family. ELFGN is committed to building strong families. A leader will model an authentic commitment to their family, an example that is consistent both in the home and in the church. (Ephesians 5 & 6).
2. **A Commitment to Increasing Knowledge of Jesus Christ Through Prayer, Personal Study of the Bible and Application to Every Day Life:**
- A. ***A Working Knowledge of Spiritual Principles in the Bible***: One of the best ways to grow in our knowledge of Jesus is through a better understanding of the principles found in Scripture. A leader will continually seek to increase his understanding of Scripture. (II Timothy 2:15).
 - B. ***An Ability to Effectively Communicate Faith***: A leader will have many opportunities to communicate the meaning and significance of a relationship with Jesus Christ. This will encourage the believer and challenge the unbeliever. It is important that a leader is able to clearly and concisely communicate a Gospel message within the context of their own personal testimony. This will be a valuable tool for personal evangelism. (Matthew 28:18-20).
 - C. ***Submission to the Word of God***: A leader will seek to apply the principles learned from God’s Word in their personal life. In addition, they should be capable of encouraging and exhorting to do the same.
 - D. ***Sacrifice (Philippians 1:3)***: The knowledge of Jesus prepares us to suffer. According to Paul, knowledge of Jesus means being well acquainted with His suffering and sacrifice.

3. **A Commitment to the Body of Christ at ELFM**

- A. ***Consistent Participation in Small Groups, and Celebration Services:*** One of the best ways to continue to develop and grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ is to continue in fellowship with other believers. (Hebrews 10:25). This is not only beneficial to the personal spiritual life of the leader, but it is also an encouragement to other believers. ELFGN offers several opportunities to regularly participate in fellowship with other believers. A leader will be a model as they communicate the importance of these activities by their own consistent participation in them.
- B. ***Consistent Participation in Leadership Training:*** A characteristic of a growing Christian is to be **TRAINABLE/TEACHABLE**. This is no different for the leader. A leader will model a teachable spirit through consistent participation in leadership training. ELFGN is dedicated to providing excellent leadership training opportunities. Similar to participation in celebration services, small groups, and believers' worship, participation in leadership training opportunities is not only beneficial to the leader himself/herself, but also an encouragement to the body of leaders.
- C. ***Development of an Apprentice Leader:*** The Apostle Paul modeled for us the importance of apprentice leadership (II Timothy 2:2). One of the most effective ways to reproduce and maximize your ministry impact is to be committed to doing ministry in pairs, a leader developing an apprentice leader. In order for the body of Christ to continue to make a difference, each leader must take upon himself/herself the responsibility of leadership development. An excellent way to do this is through apprenticeships.
- D. ***Facilitate Care and Spiritual Growth of Individuals Under Care:*** Leaders have accepted the responsibility to facilitate the care and spiritual growth of the individuals to whom they are ministering. (1 Peter 5:1-4). It is not their sole responsibility to care for these individuals. It is the leader's responsibility to see that the individuals in the group provide care for one another.
- E. ***Efforts/Actions (Using giftedness):*** God gives every Christian gifts and abilities to be used to benefit His body, the church. A leader will seek to discover how God has gifted him/her to be most effective in ministry. In turn, the leader will encourage other Christians to seek out to discover their own gifts and abilities and use them in ministry to benefit the body of Christ. (1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12, Ephesians 4).

4. **A Commitment to Increasing Competency as a Leader:** This is evident in the following ways:
- A. ***Commitment to ELFGN's Vision and Values:*** Leaders are enthusiastically committed to the fellowship's vision and values and they try to live them out in practical ways. Leaders continually strive to align their ministry area with the vision and values of ELFGN. Within their ministry area, leaders strive to consistently and effectively communicate our vision and values in a compelling manner that inspires others to become more actively involved.
 - B. ***Attitude:*** Leaders have a positive, can-do attitude and enthusiasm that attracts and inspires others. People are naturally drawn to a leader's servant's heart and Christ-like character such as humility, patience, and self-discipline. Leaders have a —whatever it takes attitude and are willing to sacrifice self for the good of the church body. They are able to laugh at themselves and admit their mistakes to others; Leaders are more critical of themselves than others are.
 - C. ***Integrity:*** Leaders are committed to being trustworthy, honest, reliable, and willing to stand-up for what they believe is right, regardless of the consequences. They value and persistently seek truth in all matters. They give every assignment their best effort without cutting corners as they seek to honor God and honor others through excellence.
 - D. ***Priority Setting/Time Management:*** Leaders use their time effectively and efficiently, concentrating their efforts on the more important priorities that will have a lasting impact on the church. Specifically, leaders spend considerable time on activities related to coaching, mentoring, and developing other potential leaders and on activities that will have a long-term, lasting benefit for the church.
 - E. ***Action Oriented*** – Leaders develop a strong drive to create a better tomorrow. They find creative and innovative ways to work through or around barriers. Leaders do not let things fester. They learn to strike the right balance between planning and action. Others are energized and motivated by their can-do attitude.
 - F. ***Team Player*** – Leaders have a deep commitment to the team or group they lead, and to helping their team members to understand, pursue, and take their next steps with God. Leaders are willing to sacrifice self for the good of their team. They are good at collaborating with and promoting the creative ideas of others, resulting in a product that is consistently bigger and better than themselves. Leaders can quickly find common ground and solve problems for the good of all.
 - G. ***Demanding Standards/Expectations*** – Leaders demand and are passionate about high standards of excellence in their ministry areas and are not living with festering deficiencies. They communicate these standards to others in all that they do and inspire others to high levels of performance. Leaders pay close attention to details and are more demanding of their ministry area than others are.
 - H. ***Trainable & Teachable*** – Leaders are relentless learners. They are aware of their personal strengths, weaknesses, and limits. Leaders continuously work to improve themselves. They are open to change without being defensive. They seek out and thrive on constructive feedback.