



READING & WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

BOOKS WILL BE PROVIDED BY IDC
NOT EVERY BOOK WILL BE READ IN ITS ENTIRETY

BIBLE & THEOLOGY

- *IDC Elder Confession of Faith (IDC ECF)*
- *The King in His Beauty (TKHB)* by Thomas Schreiner

ECCLESIOLOGY

- *What is the Mission of the Church?* by Kevin DeYoung and Greg Gilbert
- *A Display of God's Glory* by Mark Dever
- *The Deliberate Church* by Mark Dever and Paul Alexander
- *The Church: The Gospel Made Visible* by Mark Dever

PASTORAL MINISTRY

- *The Shepherd Leader* by Timothy Witmer
- *Elders* by Jeremie Rennie
- *Faithful Preaching* by Tony Merida
- *Rhythms of Grace: How the Church's Worship Tells the Story of the Gospel* by Mike Cospser
- *A Call to Spiritual Reformation* by D.A. Carson

CHRISTIAN LIFE

- *The Hole in Our Holiness* by DeYoung

ELDER TRAINING SCHEDULE

1. Week 1

- a. Biblical Focus: *TKHB* Part 1 Summaries
- b. Theological Focus: IDC ECF #1-2
- c. Ecclesiology Focus: Chapters 2 & 9 in *What is the Mission of the Church?*
- d. Ministry Focus: Chapters 1-2 in *Elders*
- e. Bible and Theology Exam due

2. Week 2

- a. Biblical Focus: *TKHB* Part 2 Summaries
- a. Theological Focus: IDC ECF #3-4



- b. Ecclesiology Focus: *A Display of God's Glory*
 - c. Ministry Focus: Chapters 3-4 in *Elders*
 - d. Listen to "What is the Gospel?" by DA Carson (250 word response)
- 3. Week 3**
- a. Biblical Focus: *TKHB* Part 3 Summaries
 - b. Theological Focus: IDC ECF #5-7
 - c. Ecclesiology Focus: Chapters 1-2 in *The Deliberate Church*
 - d. Pastoral Focus: Chapters 5-6 in *Elders*
- 4. Week 4**
- a. Biblical Focus: *TKHB* Part 4 Summaries
 - b. Theological Focus: IDC ECF #8-9
 - c. Ecclesiology Focus: Chapters 3-5 in *The Deliberate Church*
 - d. Pastoral Focus: Chapters 7-8 in *Elders*
 - e. Chapter 1 in *A Call to Spiritual Reformation*
 - f. 500 word essay on "What is an elder?"
- 5. Week 5**
- a. Biblical Focus: *TKHB* Part 5 Summaries
 - b. Theological Focus: IDC ECF #10-12
 - c. Ecclesiology Focus: Chapters 6-7 in *The Deliberate Church* by Dever
 - d. Chapter 9 in *Rhythms of Grace*
- 6. Week 6**
- a. Biblical Focus: *TKHB* Part 6 Summaries
 - b. Theological Focus: IDC ECF #13-15
 - c. Ecclesiology Focus: Chapters 8-10 in *The Deliberate Church* by Dever
 - d. Pastoral Focus: Chapter 5 in *The Shepherd Leader* by Witmer
 - e. Listen to "The Centrality of the Church in Disciple-Making" by Mark Dever (250 word response)
- 7. Week 7**
- a. Biblical Focus: *TKHB* Part 7 Summaries
 - b. Theological Focus: IDC ECF #16-18
 - c. Ecclesiology Focus: Chapters 11-12 in *The Deliberate Church* by Dever
 - d. Pastoral Focus: Chapter 6 in *The Shepherd Leader* by Witmer
 - e. Questionnaire on personal life in light of the biblical qualifications listed in 1 Tim. 3 & Titus 1 due
- 8. Week 8**
- a. Biblical Focus: *TKHB* Part 8 Summaries



- b. Theological Focus: IDC ECF #21-22
- c. Ecclesiology Focus: Chapters 13-14 in *The Deliberate Church* by Dever
- d. Pastoral Focus: Chapter 7 in *The Shepherd Leader* by Witmer
- e. Listen to “Connecting the Dots Between Shepherding, Disciple-Making & Meaningful Membership” by Mark Dever (250 word response)

9. Week 9

- a. Biblical Focus: *TKHB* Part 9 Summaries
- b. Theological Focus: IDC ECF #23
- c. Ecclesiology Focus: Chapters 15-18 in *The Deliberate Church* by Dever
- d. Pastoral Focus: Chapter 8 in *The Shepherd Leader* by Witmer
- e. Listen to “Watch Your Life and Teaching” by CJ Mahaney (250 word response)

10. Week 10

- a. Theological Focus: IDC ECF #24-26
- b. Ecclesiology Focus: Chapters 19-21 in *The Deliberate Church* by Dever
- c. Pastoral Focus: Chapter 1-2 in *The Hole in Our Holiness*
- d. Questionnaire on biblical theology and systematic theology due

11. Week 11

- a. Theological Focus: IDC ECF #27-28
- b. Pastoral Focus: Chapter 3-8 in *The Hole in Our Holiness*
- c. Listen to “Divine Sovereignty: The Fuel of Death-Defying Missions” by David Platt (250 word response)

12. Week 12

- a. Pastoral Focus: Chapter 9-10 in *The Hole in Our Holiness*
- b. Pastoral Focus: Chapters 2-4, 6 in *Faithful Preaching* by Merida
- c. Questionnaire on philosophy of ministry due
- d. *The Church: The Gospel Made Visible* (700 word response) due

Saturday, February 14, 2015 – Elder candidates presented to the church

Saturday, October 10, 2015 – Elder nominees presented to the church

Saturday, December 12, 2015 – Elder affirmation

Saturday, December 19, 2015 – Elder installation



TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED DURING ELDER TRAINING

- Basic criteria and requirements for eldership at IDC
- The essential meaning of the Gospel
- New Hampshire Confession of Faith
- IDC Elder Confession of Faith
- Hermeneutics (principles for interpreting Scripture) and the influence of postmodernism on hermeneutics
- A culture of discipling relationships
- Eschatology
- Spiritual gifts
- Church discipline
- Leadership and ministry styles
- Soteriology (doctrine of salvation), the ordo salutis (order of the application of salvation) and the doctrines of grace
- Worship and music philosophy
- Essentials and non-essential doctrines to Christian orthodoxy, church membership, and church leadership
- Counseling and personal ministry
- Missions vision/philosophy