

- Not a passive congregation
- Not an all-powerful congregation

CORE Seminars – Theology of the Church
Capitol Hill Baptist Church
Week 5: Congregationalism and Elders



I. Introduction

- *Why is it important for you to understand what leadership model the Bible describes for the local church?*

V. Conclusion

Course Outline:

Week 1 -- What is a Church?

Week 2 -- The Keys: Church Membership

Week 3 -- The Keys: Church Discipline

Week 4 -- Ordinances: Baptism and the Lord's Supper

Week 5 -- Church Governance: Congregationalism and Elders

Week 6 -- Church Gathered & Scattered

Questions? Contact Zach at Zach.Schlegel@capbap.org or Jamie at Jamie.Dunlop@capbap.org.

II. Authority of the Congregation

1. *There are different kinds of authority in the church.*
2. *The authority of the keys of the kingdom belong to the congregation as a whole.*
 - *Matthew 16:18-19*

- *Matthew 18:15-20*

3. *Church membership (therefore) is an office, or job.*

- *Job #1: Help preserve the gospel – (Gal. 1)*

- *Job #2: Help affirm gospel citizens – (Matt. 18; 1 Cor. 5)*

4. *The Church has office authority in discipline and membership (Matt. 18; 1 Cor. 5) and doctrine and leadership (Gal. 1).*

III. Authority of the Elders

Authority of teaching and oversight

The congregation cannot wisely adjudicate the what and the who of the gospel unless they have gospel teachers teaching and giving oversight.

Responsibilities of elders

1. *The ministry of the Word - (Acts 6)*

2. *The ministry of prayer - (Acts 6)*

3. *The ministry of gathering and protecting – (Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 5:2-4; Heb. 13:17)*

IV. How Do These Fit Together?

¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴ so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. – Eph. 4:11-16