

Handling the Word

Baptist Faith and Message

VI. The Church

A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is an autonomous local congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the two ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth. Each congregation operates under the Lordship of Christ through democratic processes. In such a congregation each member is responsible and accountable to Christ as Lord. Its **two** scriptural officers are **that of pastor/elder/overseer** and deacon. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of **pastor/elder/overseer** is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

Issue of _____

What determines our _____ and
_____?

¹⁶ *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*
(2 Timothy 3:16)

Issue of _____

¹⁵ *Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the word of truth.* (2 Timothy 2:15)

It can be handled _____

We must understand the _____

_____ Context

_____ Context

What is the underlying _____
principle?

Issue of _____

“God said it, I believe it, that settles it”