

18:28:44 From Rebecca Davis to Everyone:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VjLKmaKROY2SGow_q9wWsAwISsu8xDcXRMdJvAj04Dg/copy

19:01:08 From Cheryl Bennett to Everyone:
Cheryl Bennett from Acworth, GA

19:01:13 From iPad to Everyone:
Chattanooga

19:01:18 From bryandubois to Everyone:
Bryan Dubois from Asheville, NC

19:01:18 From Sheri Plum to Everyone:
San Diego Ca

19:01:19 From Cathy Sage to Everyone:
Cathy Sage from Vermont

19:01:22 From Julie Wallace to Everyone:
Julie Wallace from Middleburg, FL

19:01:23 From Terra Edwards to Everyone:
Terra from Tamassee SC

19:01:25 From Chanda Danley Cagle to Everyone:
Chanda from Mt Airy NC

19:01:29 From Samantha to Everyone:
From NJ, just moved to Hilton Head SC!

19:01:29 From Jennifer Jordan to Everyone:
Clemmons, North Carolina

19:01:29 From Susan Sharp to Everyone:
Susan Sharp joining from Greenville, SC

19:01:33 From Rhonda Burdett to Everyone:
Rhonda Tallmadge, OH

19:01:32 From Hope Rissler to Everyone:
Hope from PA

19:01:43 From Michele Beckmann to Everyone:
Colfax wa state

19:01:35 From Sharon to Everyone:
Travelers Rest, SC

19:01:37 From Rachel to Everyone:
Rachel from Coralville, IA

19:01:38 From Pat M to Everyone:
RI

19:01:45 From Robert Simpson to Everyone:
RObert Simpson, WHiting, Maine [near New Brunswick's Campobello ISland

19:01:46 From Rachelle to Everyone:
Rachelle from St.Paul MN

19:01:46 From Lydia Kaiser to Everyone:
Lydia Kaiser from Missouri

19:01:47 From Angie to Everyone:
Angie Hall from Warsaw Indiana

19:01:48 From Esther to Everyone:
Esther Day from Orange City, FL

19:02:02 From bryandubois to Everyone:
Someone from Mt Airy, Maryland . . . wonderful!

19:02:09 From Brenda to Everyone:
Brenda from Tennessee

19:02:11 From Denise B to Everyone:
Denise from Elmhurst, IL

19:02:18 From Kande to Everyone:
Kande- east Tennessee

19:02:43 From Elizabeth to Everyone:
Clinton, IA here

19:10:38 From Sharon to Everyone:
does anyone know the reference for that passage?

19:10:42 From Cheryl Bennett to Everyone:
I'm sorry what scripture was that?

19:10:59 From Lydia Kaiser to Everyone:
Mtt 20:25

19:43:33 From Shaleigh's iPhone to Everyone:
Came out of Gothardism myself, seriously untangling for the last 1-2 years.

19:44:13 From Janice E Smith to Everyone:
Or with respect?

19:47:55 From KC to Everyone:
I was like that years ago and I found the Living Bible was much more understandable

19:49:04 From Jennifer Jordan to Everyone:
I recommend reading from the New Living Translation. Focus on the Psalms and the Gospels.

19:49:47 From Janice E Smith to Everyone:
Listen to worship or Christian music? Recorded hymns?

19:51:32 From Marta Ilona to Everyone:
Hi everyone,

19:52:21 From Robert Simpson to Everyone:
Andrew Peterson is very good!

19:56:23 From Sheri's iPhone to Everyone:
So many of the problems we see today in the church disappears when we take away the hierarchy of church systems. Read the book of Acts. Churches met in homes. Women were leaders. It was the Jewish system that met in the Temple.

19:57:00 From Marta Ilona to Everyone:
Bonnie, I put my Bible under my bed for almost a year while I was recovering from church abuse. I spent time each day literally crying to the Lord and talking it out with Him. (One sided conversation!) I agree with Rebecca, please be patient with yourself. Eventually my husband and I found a kind loving church where we were taught by example the great love of God. Eventually, I brought my Bible out again and started reading it with my new found sisters in Christ. But it took time to restore my confidence in the Scriptures. By the way, it was a long long

long time before I could read the Psalms again. But eventually, the Scriptures came alive to me and I was comforted.

19:57:20 From Marta Ilona to Everyone:

I don't know how to raise my hand!

19:58:47 From Susan Sharp to Everyone:

Marta - click on "react" at the bottom of the screen and then on "raise Hand"

20:00:18 From Sheri's iPhone to Everyone:

I just read a great book on the APEST gifts. Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, shepherds and Teachers. It's called Primal Fire by Neil Cole.

20:05:47 From HeatherM to Everyone:

I wonder if it's worth thinking that elders were a "position" as in recognized by the church but it wasn't a hierarchical position. And so that makes sense of the Holy Spirit and the body together recognizing and setting aside individuals in the "position" of elders.

20:08:04 From Brianna Tilden to Everyone:

I think it makes sense that the "appointment" means more like encouragement to the other members of the body to pay heed to their teaching given their character (what we call "qualifications"). Name those mature so the rest can follow them.

20:12:29 From Lydia Kaiser to Everyone:

Thanks for that book recommendation, Sheri.

20:16:35 From bonniehennessy to Everyone:

Well thank you Rebecca for all you do to serve the Body.

20:18:05 From Cheryl to Everyone:

Rebecca, You are a powerful example of the beauty of humility. Thank you.

20:18:25 From Cheryl Bennett to Everyone:

Replying to "Rebecca, You are a powerful example of the beauty ...":
That's what I was thinking!

20:26:03 From Sheri's iPhone to Everyone:

Another great resource on women is a book by Terran Williams called How God Sees Women.

20:30:58 From Lydia Kaiser to Everyone:

Matt 18 says if they won't hear you to "take it to the church" which would be everyone in the group.

20:32:49 From Cheryl to Everyone:

Church has become all about image management instead of repentance and healing.

20:34:12 From Heather to Everyone:

Thank you, Rebecca. I appreciate your presentation. So important and you have provided some clarity.

20:36:44 From Martha Bildt to Everyone:

I love that Michael and Heather!!! I wish I had been brave enough to have done that - Your 'goal' of repentance is perfect - and what I'm still looking for/hoping for. God BLESS you!

20:36:54 From bonniehennessy to Everyone:

I'm sorry that I haave to go. This was so good and so helpful. I realized I asked a question off topic but am so glad I did.

20:37:18 From Cheryl to Everyone:

Hugs and love, Bonnie.

20:38:26 From Martha Bildt to Everyone:

Rebecca, this whole teaching and discussion has been truly rich, helpful, and comorting. Extremely refreshing, including your beautiful humility!! Thank you, beautiful servant.

20:44:23 From Joyce Schroeder to Everyone:

In terms of bringing more people—or the whole church into a concern about a church leader, I'd like to mention that we can always add information, but cannot retract information that has been shared. Also, if this person has a family who will be affected, but they are not the ones in the wrong, we can show compassion to them in how/with whom we share. And likely this was already shared when I was switching devices, but if this person is abusing others, we also want to help the victims get to safety.

20:45:45 From Robert Simpson to Everyone:

Wade Burleson can be a good resource for teaching about leadership and the spiritual abuse by bad leaders. A sample article:

<https://www.wadeburleson.org/2022/01/a-revolution-that-began-in-hearts-and.html>

20:48:54 From Michaael and HeatherM to Everyone:

Rebecca asked if we could share the letter we shared with others in our church as we approached people individually were trying to confront the elders. Below is the copy:

"Hello, I'm wondering if you would be willing to help us. We are feeling a heavy burden to include others as we are attempting to raise some serious leadership sin issues with the elders.

We have tried to bring up these concerns alone and with witnesses and are not being heard, so to obey the next step of Mathew 18, we are coming to you and others in the church...

20:49:15 From Michaael and HeatherM to Everyone:

...We have tried to avoid involving you in our reconciliation efforts, but we feel that if we continue to keep things hidden from the church that we are participating in an unhealthy leadership culture. We believe that those in the church deserve to be empowered to have the information they need to hold their leaders to account, as we are told to do in scripture. I'm sending a link to your email, just wanted to give you the heads up.

Our goal is *not* to encourage people to leave the church or to get any leaders to step down, but our hope and prayer is that you can be a part of helping us raise these issues with the elders in order to bring about full repentance and healthy leadership. "

20:49:55 From Robert Simpson to Everyone:

https://www.amazon.com/Subtle-Power-Spiritual-Abuse-Manipulation-ebook/dp/B006K4PPCS?ref_=ast_author_mpb

20:50:18 From Joyce Schroeder to Everyone:

This is a kind, generous, and mature letter. Thanks for sharing.

20:50:32 From Robert Simpson to Everyone:

A HELPFUL BOOK by a professional counselor.

20:51:00 From Shaleigh's iPhone to Everyone:

There's a reason I have almost no use for going to church buildings. I know why church pews are emptying.

20:51:19 From iPadTricia to Everyone:

Thank you Michael and Heather for sharing your letter

20:51:32 From Pat M to Everyone:

I'm going to say good night all! I appreciate the conversation very much. Thank you, Rebecca!

20:51:54 From KC to Everyone:

Replying to "There's a reason I have almost no use for going to...":

I'm right with you. I love my little small group of friends. I don't want to support a building and the structure

20:53:16 From Lydia Kaiser to Everyone:

Are you all familiar with the micro-church movement? KC Underground and Tampa

Underground etc. I just joined the Canvas Network of micro-churches in MO / IL.

20:53:43 From Brianna Tilden to Everyone:

Great way to put it Michael!

20:53:51 From Shaleigh's iPhone to Everyone:

Like that Michael. Yes different roles but not overarching importance. Reminds me of Paul's body metaphor.

20:54:53 From KC to Everyone:

I am part of a facebook group called Rethinking God with tacos. People from all over rethinking all they have believed so if you read some posts they are very controversial and maybe offensive. Everyone is on their own path of healing and rethinking.

20:55:34 From Michaael and HeatherM to Everyone:

If anyone is in Madison, WI, feel free to message us separately.

20:56:04 From Lydia Kaiser to Everyone:

micro-churches can meet in homes or other places and are super intentional about no hierarchy.

20:56:20 From Shaleigh's iPhone to Everyone:

Replying to "I am part of a facebook group called Rethinking Go...":

Sometimes different even crazy perspectives are helpful. Working through why you disagree with others can be helpful.

20:57:08 From Sharon to Everyone:

I don't think most house churches are functioning under horizontal leadership. They are typically just avoiding accountability. Nearly every house church I have ever heard of is functioning like a cult...be careful!

20:57:21 From Lydia Kaiser to Everyone:

Replying to "I am part of a facebook group called Rethinking Go...":

Yes, have you read The 5 Dysfunctions of a Team? Ability to disagree and do it civilly is emphasized.

20:59:44 From Joyce Schroeder to Everyone:

Regarding church, we wanted to be in a place where we could bring not-yet-believers and know they would be welcomed and loved. Our kids' friends have good memories of coming to church and lunch afterward with us.

20:59:48 From Shaleigh's iPhone to Everyone:

My family did house church because there was no church in town crazy enough for us to

be welcome. 😊

21:00:16 From Michaael and HeatherM to Everyone:

Replying to "I don't think most house churches are functioning ...":

Sharon, that was my (heather's) experience as well in previous house churches. There is a separate, newer movement of micro churches that are more focused on mission instead of seperating.

21:01:23 From Susan Sharp to Everyone:

I have to leave now. Thank you so much for hosting this meeting, Rebecca, and all of you who shared your hearts.

21:01:32 From Lila to Everyone:

I have to go, thank you!

21:02:02 From bryandubois to Everyone:

Yes, a joy.

21:02:39 From Lydia Kaiser to Everyone:

Thank you for putting this on. Bless you, Rebecca!

21:02:45 From Sheri's iPhone to Everyone:

Thank you!

21:02:48 From Joyce Schroeder to Everyone:

Rebecca, thank you for this gracious and helpful time and for sending us the chat/resources in follow-up. Please also include the websites and books you mentioned earlier.

21:03:07 From Esther to Everyone:

i Timothy 5:20

21:03:10 From Shaleigh's iPhone to Everyone:

Thank you for the lovely message Rebecca. Your resources have been very helpful for me.

21:03:22 From Chanda Danley Cagle to Everyone:

Thank you Rebecca and everyone

21:03:32 From Sharon to Everyone:


Thank you, Rebecca. This was very, very helpful!

21:03:43 From Val Cline to Everyone:

Thanks a lot Rebecca and all of you

RESOURCES (ADDED BY REBECCA):

awildernessvoice.com, where you'll find the free ebook and audiobook *The Great Ecclesiastical Conspiracy*. Much of what I spoke about came from this resource.

The youtube channel of Tom Wadsworth, especially his 7-video series that begins with this video:  **Worship #1 Why the Early Church Did Not Have Worship Services - revised** Also very helpful to understand what the *ecclesia* really is.