

# Elders, Care for Your Pastor

## CREATING A CULTURE OF SOUL-CARE IN YOUR CHURCH

By Dave Harvey



### CARE HAS LEGS

Elders, care for your pastor by providing a constant stream of care flowing from a heart of loving initiative.

*“The purpose in a man’s heart is like deep water, but a man of understanding will draw it out.” – Proverbs 20:5*

### CARE INITIATES

- ◇ How is your soul?
- ◇ Where is the gospel real to you right now?
- ◇ Are you connecting well with your wife and kids this week?
- ◇ Where are you being tempted?

### CARE PRAYS

- ◇ Am I praying for my pastor?
- ◇ Does my pastor know and feel that his church is truly praying for him?
- ◇ Are my prayers informed by his actual struggles because I’ve cared enough to take the initiative to ask?
- ◇ What passages could I send to my pastor that might encourage him or focus his own meditation?

### CARE HAS TEETH

Elders, care for your pastor by protecting his priorities and advocating for his family.

*“Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife... He must manage his own family well.” – 1 Timothy 3:2, 4*

### CARE PROTECTS

- ◇ Who knows the state of your pastor’s marriage?
- ◇ Who ensures he’s getting time off and faithfully resting?
- ◇ Who looks into whether he’s “getting real” in his relationships?
- ◇ Who asks about internet use or struggles with marriage and parenting?

### CARE ADVOCATES

- ◇ How can you encourage him in his home life?
- ◇ Where can you step in to serve his entire family?
- ◇ When could you begin implementing a pastoral sabbatical?
- ◇ How can you actively create a culture of support for your pastor and his family?

### CARE MEANS OPEN HANDS

Elders, care for your pastor by freeing him to dedicate himself to his God-given gifts.

*“...in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.” – Philippians 2:3-4*

### CARE SERVES

- ◇ What can you take off your pastor’s plate?
- ◇ How can you help him be more strategic and productive?
- ◇ What can you say or do to make your pastor feel like more of a success?
- ◇ How can you actively and personally appreciate your pastor today?