
The Pursuit of Holiness

I Am Not Just Me, I Am A Part of Us

*New Hope Community Church
Dr. Jack Bracy, June 17, 2018*

“1 So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: 2 **shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; 3 not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. 4 And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. 5 Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. **Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”** *1 Peter 5:1–5, ESV***

God’s Plan for Keeping You Spiritually Healthy

The Gift of Church Leaders

Before These Names Became Titles or Roles They Were
the Functions of Leaders

The Function of Church Leaders

“Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God’s people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God’s Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.” *Ephesians 4:11–13, NLT*

1. To Equip God’s People ...
2. To Build Up the Church

The Role of Church Members

1. Submit to Church Leadership

If I Do Not Submit I Cannot Absorb
All the Good Stuff God Is Trying to Teach Me

2. Clothe Yourself in Humility

3. Do God's Work

4. Grow in Unity, Faith, and Knowledge

Resulting in Becoming Mature in Christ Our Lord

"... for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble

How My Faith Can Change My Life

"⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷ casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.¹¹ To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen." *1 Peter 5:6-11, ESV*

Humble Myself

Cast All My Cares onto Jesus

Be Sober Minded

Be Watchful

Why?

Resist Him

Be Firm in My Faith

Know

It Is Never Me Against the World, It Is Always Us