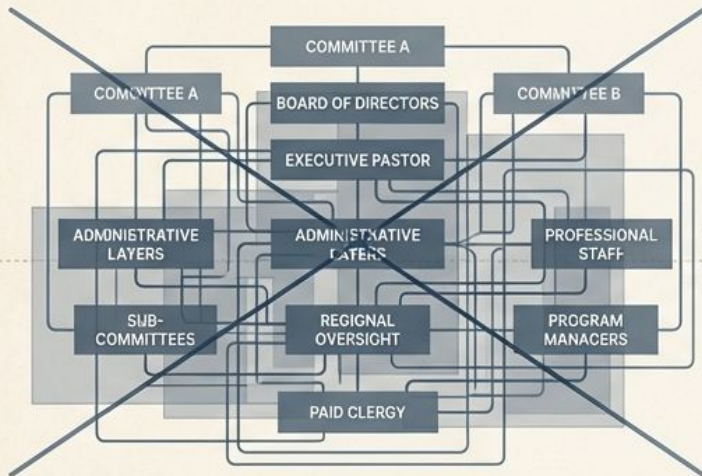


The Divine Blueprint of The Church of Jesus Christ

Examining the lean, scriptural, and functional
structure of the restored church.

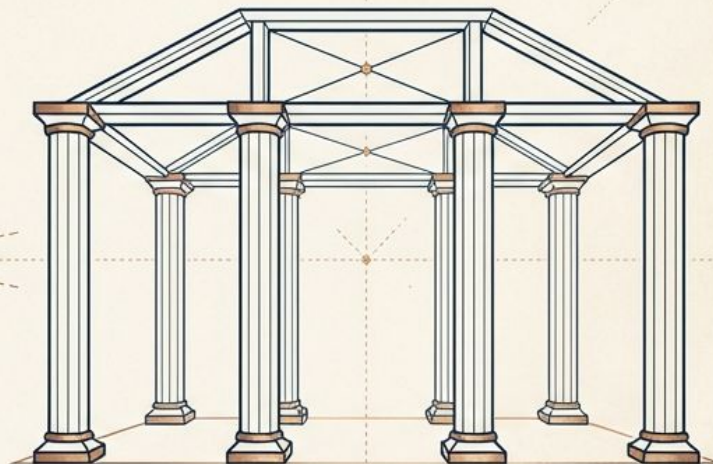
THE CHURCH OF
Jesus[®]
Christ

Structural Simplicity is a Mark of Scriptural Authenticity



THE BUREAUCRATIC ASSUMPTION

Modern churches often rely on complex administrative layers and paid professional clergy.



THE SCRIPTURAL REALITY

The pattern Christ established is lean, functional, and relational. Simplicity is faithfulness, not deficiency.

THE FOUNDATION

The offices match exactly what Paul described in Ephesians 4:11–12 and 1 Corinthians 12:28, and what the Book of Mormon recorded with plainness (Moroni 3; Moroni 6).

"He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers..." — Ephesians 4:11–12

The Mechanism of Connection: Ordination



Restored 1829:
Authority restored by an angel.
Every ordination traces backward
in an unbroken chain to this point.

Washing of Feet:
Setting the candidate apart.

Prayer:
Seeking the Father in the name
of Christ (Moroni 3).

Laying on of Hands:
The formal conferral. A real
spiritual transaction where a
blessing is pronounced, authority is
invoked, and the gift is conferred
(Hebrews 6, 1 Tim 4:14).
Oil is used to anoint the
candidate.

Ordination is not self-appointed.
It flows through the body of the church.

A Structure That Supports, Not Suppresses

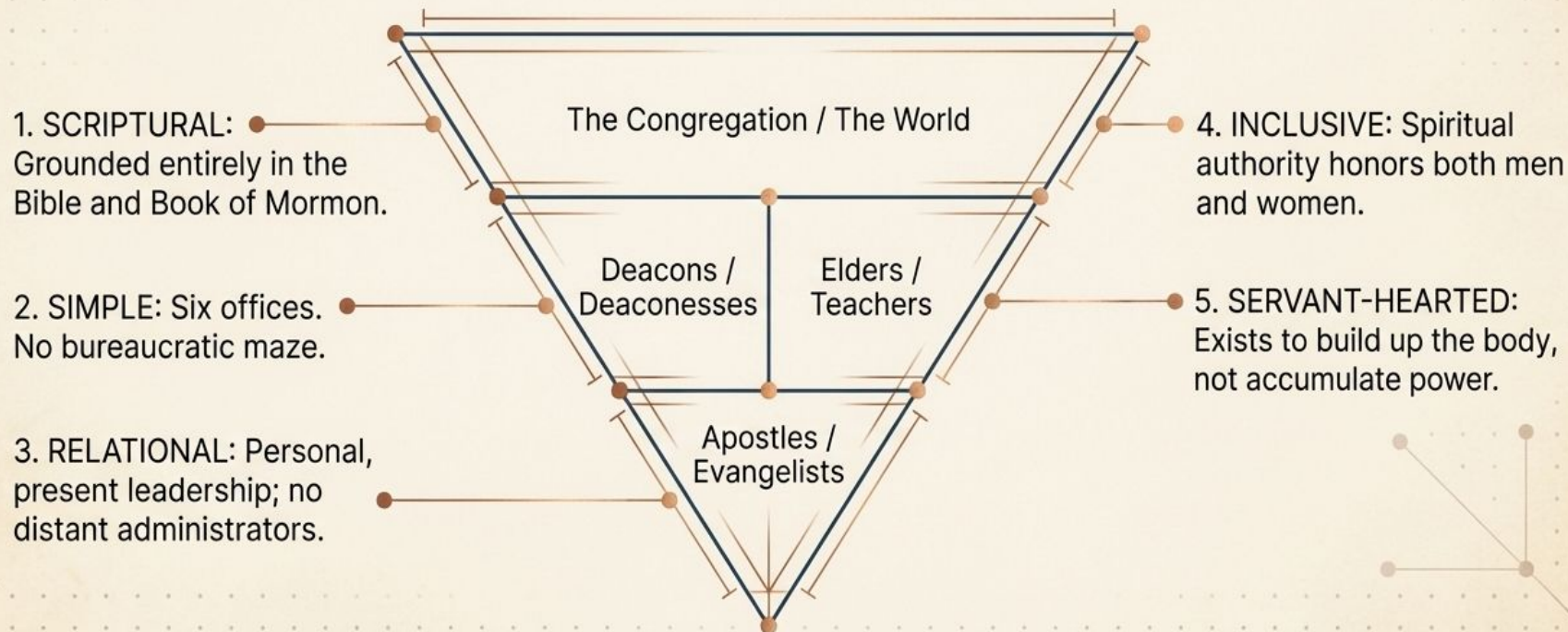
“Whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; and whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant.” — Matthew 20:26-27

Leadership in the Church is not a corporate ladder. The **goal of every ordained office is service, not advancement.** The structure exists solely to build up the body, not to accumulate power or reward loyalty.



True Greatness in This Structure is Measured by Downward Service

"Whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister" (Matthew 20:26).



Defining the Blueprint by What It Excludes

The Divine Absences

Office	Traditional Assumption	The Scriptural Reality	The Church's Practice
High Priest	A necessary earthly presiding authority.	Jesus Christ is the great and last High Priest (Hebrews 7:24-25). The earthly office was fulfilled by Him.	No earthly high priests. (The June 1831 Kirtland introduction was an innovation, not a restoration).
Prophet	A singular, ordained supreme leader.	Prophecy is a spiritual gift distributed by the Spirit, not an ordained office (1 Cor 12:10-11).	Prophetic gifts operate throughout the body, but there is no ordained "Office of Prophet".
Professional Clergy	Ministry requires full-time, salaried professionals.	"Freely ye have received, freely give" (Matthew 10:8).	No ordained office is paid.

Ministry as a Calling, Not a Commodity

The Corruption: Priestcraft



Nehor's Model (Alma 1)

Teaching for money, building a church around paid clergy, making ministry a profession for the sake of riches and honor. The servant becomes a professional; motivation shifts.

The Pattern: Grace



Alma's Model (Mosiah 18:26)

Priests work with their own hands. They do not depend on the people for support. Their compensation is the grace of God, allowing them to teach with authentic power and authority.

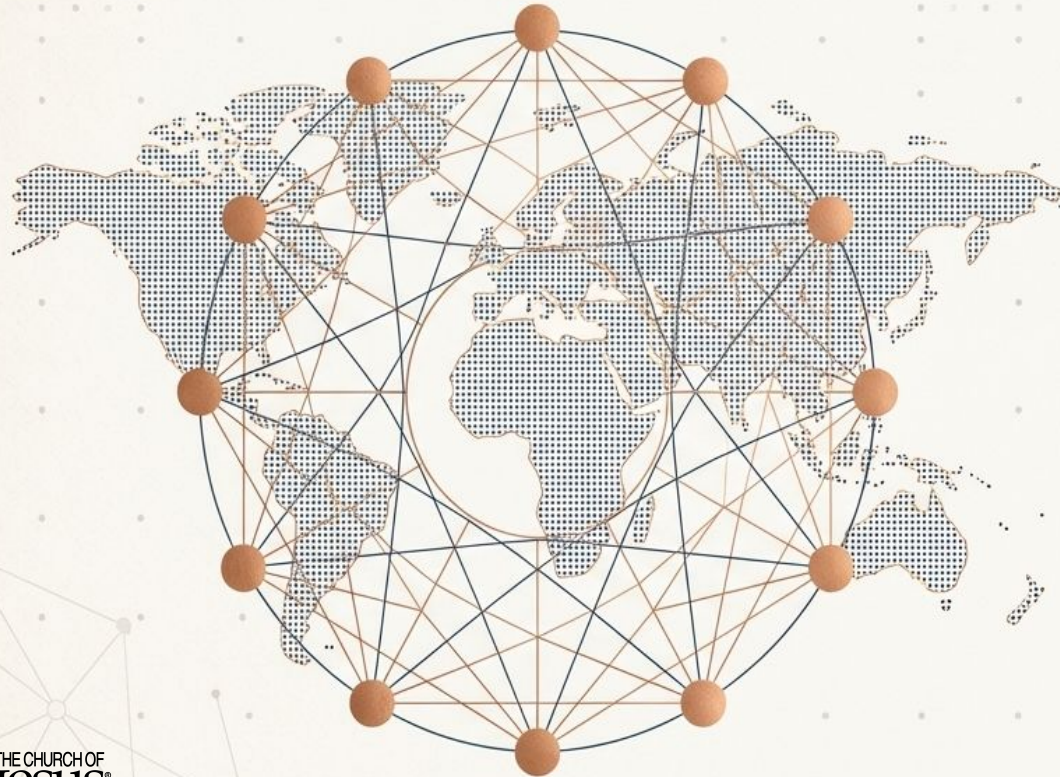
Every ordained officer in The Church of Jesus Christ works to sustain themselves. There are no stipends, living allowances or salaries.

The Six Load-Bearing Pillars of the Church

Office Name	Scriptural Blueprint	Primary Domain	Core Duty
Apostle	Mark 3 / 3 Nephi 19	Global Oversight	Bear witness
Evangelist	Luke 10:1	Outward Expansion	Plant & Preach
Elder	Titus 1:5-6	Local Shepherding	Preside & Pastor
Teacher	1 Cor 12:28	Local Spiritual Ministry	Doctrinal clarity
Deacon	Acts 6:1-7	Practical Service	Physical needs
Deaconess	Romans 16:1	Compassion & Outreach	Sick & Distressed

DESIGN CONSTRAINT: No administrative layers exist beyond these six offices. Scripture does not prescribe them; the body does not need them.

Apostles Provide Collective, Global Spiritual Oversight



THE CALLING

"Apostle" translates to "one sent out." They bear witness to Christ's resurrection and the Restoration.

THE BLUEPRINT

Jesus chose twelve (Mark 3:14). Christ appointed twelve among the Nephites (3 Nephi 19:4).

THE MECHANICS

The Quorum of Twelve serves collectively. There is no single apostle holding supreme, isolated authority over the others.

DUTIES & CONSTRAINTS

Overseeministry, confirm ordinations, ensure doctrinal fidelity, and counsel together. They serve completely without pay.

Quorum of 12 Apostles & Quorum of 70 Evangelists

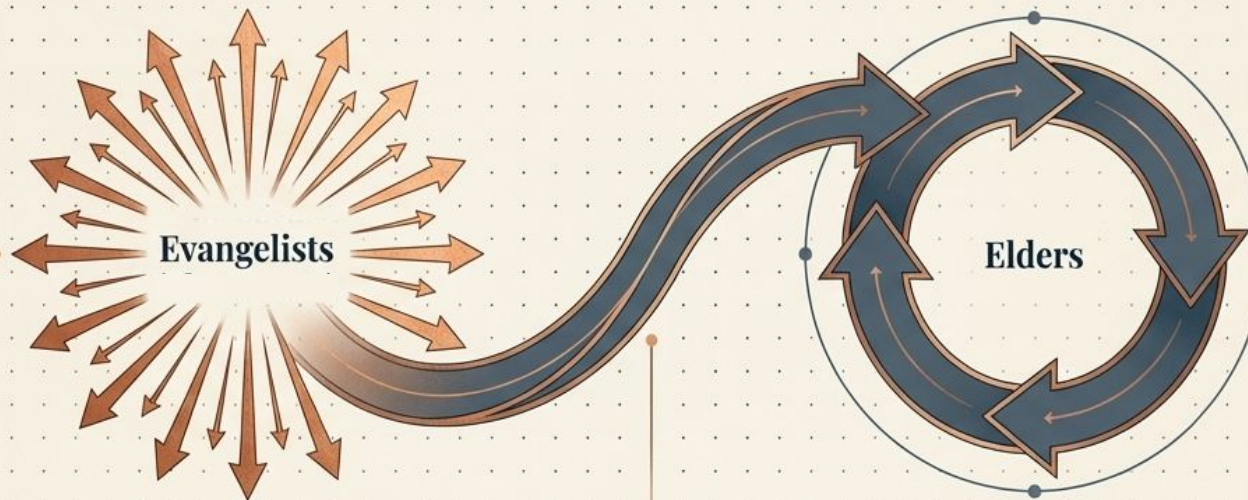
Apostles (“One Sent Out”)

- Operating collectively as the Quorum of Twelve (Mark 3:14, 3 Nephi 19:4).
- No single apostle holds supreme authority.
- They confirm ordinations and counsel on matters affecting the whole church.

Evangelists (“The Seventy”)

- The missionary office (Luke 10:1).
- Sent out to preach, baptize, and extend the church into new territories.
- Active ministers of the gospel building the church wherever God sends them.

Evangelists and Elders Form an Engine for Expansion and Care



THE EVANGELIST (Outward Mission)

Modeled after the seventy disciples Jesus sent out (Luke 10:1). They are the church's active missionaries—proclaiming the gospel, baptizing, and extending into new territories.

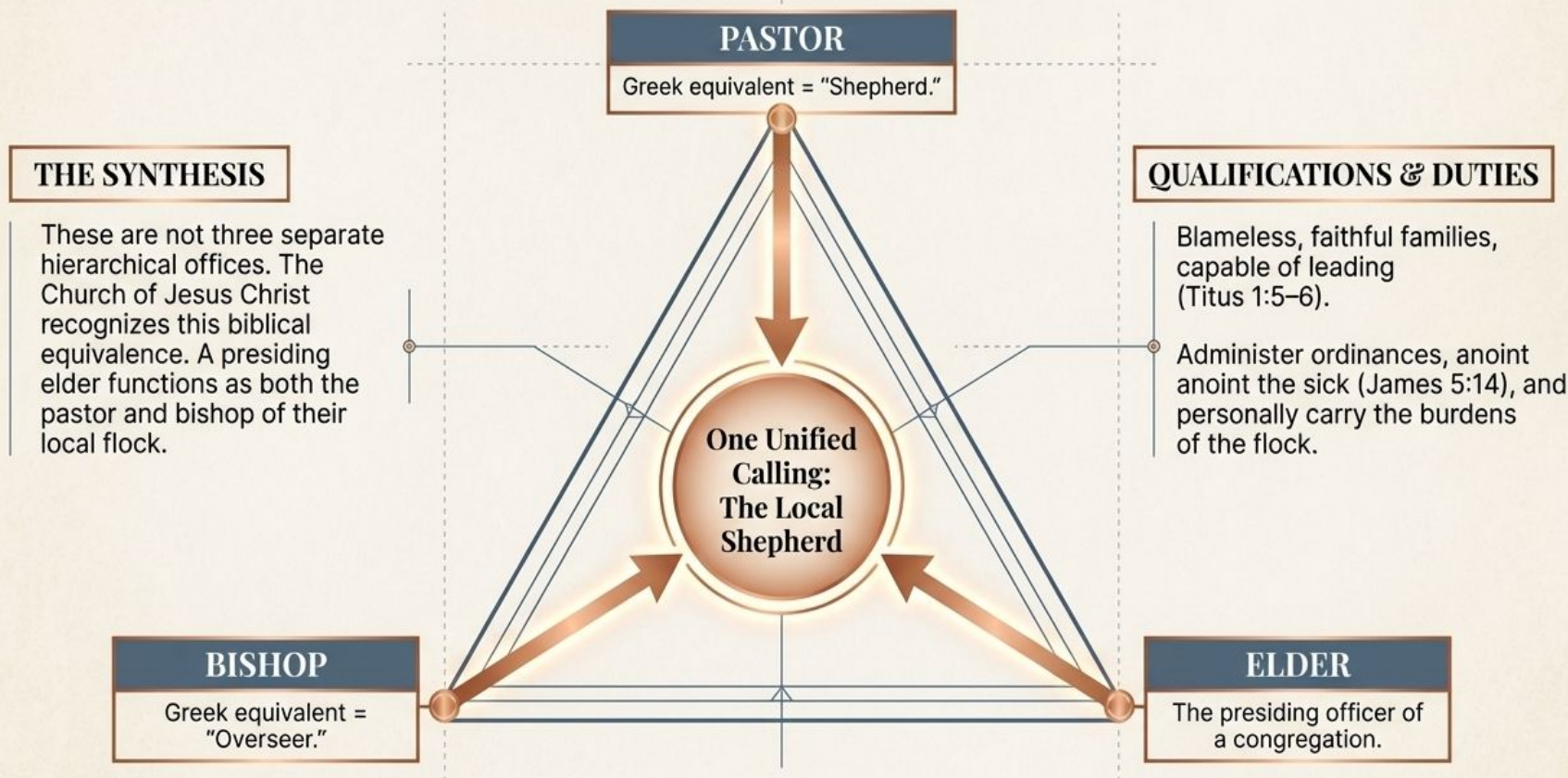
THE SYMBIOSIS

Evangelists build the church wherever God sends them; Elders sustain the church where it is planted. Both operate entirely without professional compensation.

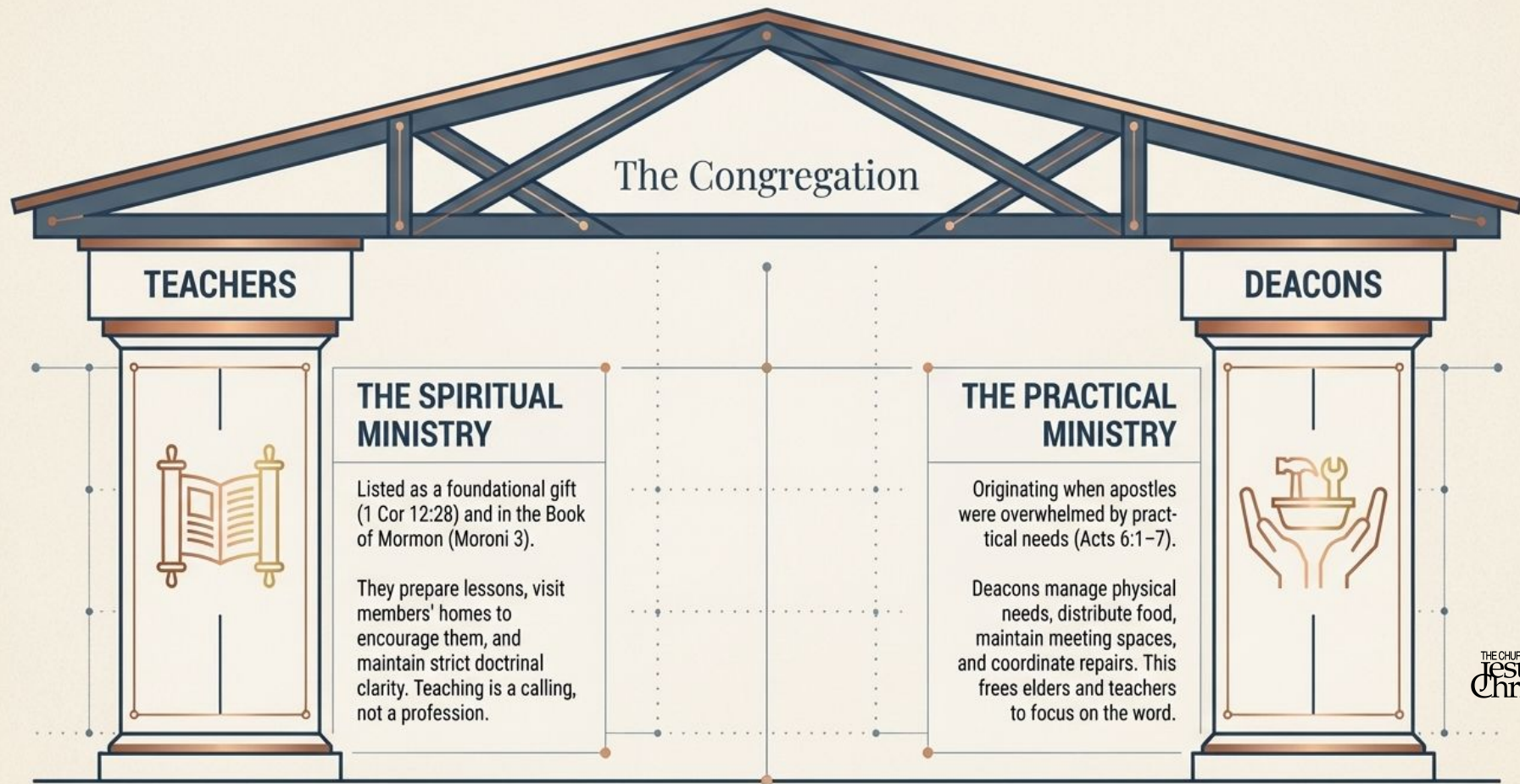
THE ELDER (Inward Shepherding)

Presides over newly established branches, providing long-term pastoral care, maintaining the local flock, and acting as a present, personal guide rather than a distant administrator.

The Elder Unifies the Biblical Roles of Pastor and Bishop

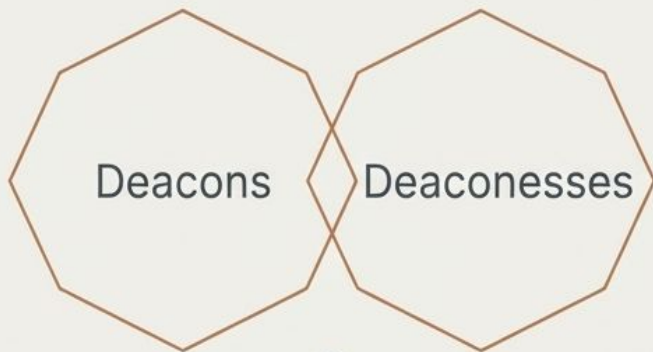


Teachers and Deacons Balance Spiritual Clarity with Practical Service



Servants *diakonos* to the Church

“...Whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister..” (Matthew 20:26)



Deacons

Origin: Instituted to distribute food and care for the vulnerable, freeing apostles for the word (Acts 6:1-7).

Mandate: Coordinate practical service, maintain spaces, assist families in distress.

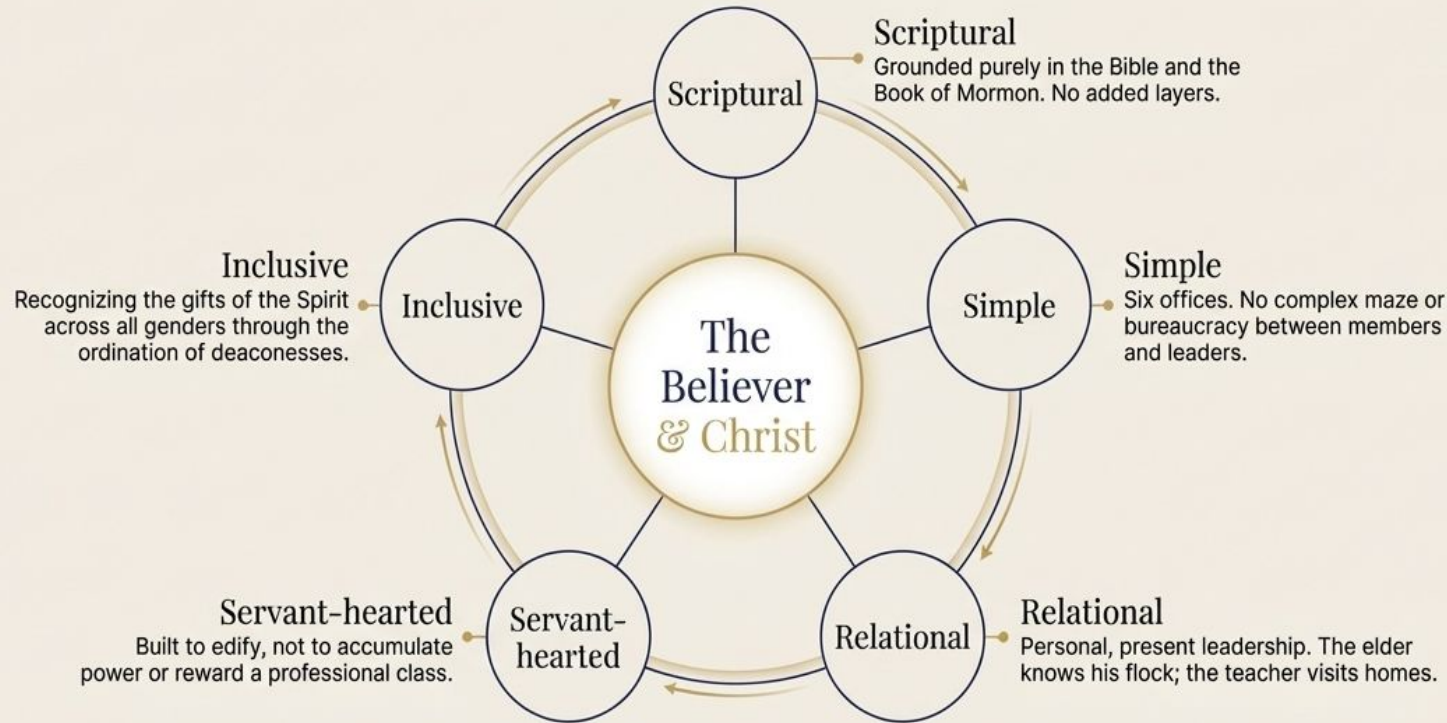
Deaconesses

Origin: Grounded in the early Christian church (Romans 16).

Mandate: Prepare communion, visit the sick, organize women's outreach and service.

The final edifice is a structure that inherently serves the believer

Local Congregation Ecosystem



Every rule and office exists solely to remove barriers between the believer and Christ.

The Biblical Pattern: The Six Ordained Offices of The Church of Jesus Christ

Leadership for Oversight and Growth



Apostle & Evangelist

Apostles provide spiritual oversight while Evangelists focus on missionary expansion and new congregations.

Local Shepherding and Instruction



Elder & Teacher

Elders act as local pastors, supported by Teachers who provide scriptural home visits.

Practical Service and Inclusive Ministry



Deacon & Deaconess

Deacons and ordained Deaconesses manage physical needs and community outreach for the congregation.



Unpaid and Self-Supported Ministry

There is no professional clergy; all officers work to support themselves and families.



Scriptural Omissions are Intentional

No high priests or prophets are ordained; Christ remains the sole High Priest.



Ordination by the Laying on of Hands

Spiritual authority is conferred publicly through prayer and an unbroken chain of restoration.

A pattern designed solely for the perfecting of the saints

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets;
and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and
teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the
work of the ministry, for the edifying of the
body of Christ. — Ephesians 4:11-12

The offices of the church are not mysterious. They are given by God,
conferred in humility, and designed to serve the body of Christ.
Nothing more is needed. Nothing less will do.