

praxis: the redemption church elder and deacon discovery track

The word “praxis” means, “to translate an idea into action.” In this case, we seek to translate the idea of a biblical, functioning community into action, and we believe this begins with biblically established elders and deacons.

The **praxis** discovery track is designed to vet individuals who may sense a calling to either eldership or deaconship within the local church. The purpose behind this program is not to make leaders, but rather to identify the biblically qualified elders and deacons Jesus has already established in our ranks.

Participation in **praxis** is open to anyone at any level, including those who simply desire to learn, but individuals who specifically desire the formal offices of elder or deacon will be placed under more stringent requirements throughout the track.

Requirements:

For those simply desiring to learn more about church and theology there are no specific requirements to be a part of **praxis**. You can either come to a designated bundle (in light gray) that interest you or attend every module throughout the year.

Those seeking the office of deacon or elder must be a member of Redemption Church.

Deacon candidates are required to follow along in the course material and go through an interview process, but no additional homework is required,

Elder candidates must complete a ½ page synopsis of each module. Elder candidates seeking **ordination** as well must also read the 9 required books (and complete the assignment for each) as well as write a final philosophy of ministry paper (10 page minimum). All papers are double spaced in the 12-point font of your choice.

All elder or deacon candidates must complete the full inventory of modules. If a module is missed it must be reviewed via video before the next scheduled module.

2014 praxis syllabus

March: Church Leadership Boot Camp (3 Modules)

3rd (7-9pm)

Mod 1: General Ecclesiology and its relationship to NT Leadership

17th (7-9pm)

Mod 2: Model and Function of NT Elders and Deacons

31st (7-9pm)

Mod 3: Qualities of NT Elders & Deacons (w/personal evaluation)

For elder candidates – ½ page synopsis

For ordained elder candidates additionally – Book 1: *Missional Leadership* by Boswell (write a 2 page synopsis)

April: Taming Your Bible (2 Modules)

7th (7-9pm)

Mod 4: Biblical Study/Hermeneutics

21st (7-9pm)

Mod 5: Old & New Testament Survey

For elder candidates – ½ page synopsis

For ordained elder candidates additionally – Book 2: *Vintage Church* by Driscoll & Breshears (write a 4 page synopsis)

Basic (And No So Basic) Theology (5 Modules) May-June

May

5th (7-9pm)

Mod 6: Theology 1 (Father, Son, Spirit & Scripture)

19th (7-9pm)

Mod 7: Theology 2 (Satan, Humanity & Sin)

For elder candidates – ½ page synopsis

For ordained elder candidates additionally – Book 3: *Introduction to Biblical Hermeneutics* by Kaiser & Silva (write a 4 page synopsis)

June

2nd (7-9pm)

Mod 8: Theology 3 (Atonement & Gospel)

16th (7-9pm)

Mod 9: Theology 4 (Church, Mission & End of Time)

30th (7-9pm)

Mod 10: Theology 5 (Hot topics and where Redemption Church stands)

For elder candidates – ½ page synopsis

For ordained elder candidates additionally – Book 4: *A Biblical Theology of the Old Testament* by Zuck, Merrill & Bock (write a 5 page synopsis)

For potential elders – 1st interview and evaluation.

JULY - OFF

August

Basic Christian “Disciplines” (1 Module) Early August

4th (7-9pm)

Mod 11: Christian Disciplines (Prayer, Fasting, Studying, Solitude, Teaching & Service)

How To Care Christian Style (4 Modules) Late August-September

August

18th (7-9pm)

Mod 12: Teaching (Homiletics, small venue and one on one)

For elder candidates – ½ page synopsis

For ordained elder candidates additionally – Book 5: *A Biblical Theology of the New Testament* by Zuck & Bock (write a 5 page synopsis)

September

1st (7-9pm)

Mod 13: Shepherding (multiplying investors and raising up leaders)

15th (7-9pm)

Mod 14: Counseling and Consoling (Biblical counseling, visitation and bereavement)

29th (7-9pm)

Mod 15: Correcting and Confronting (Biblical parameters for when and why)

For elder candidates – ½ page synopsis

For ordained elder candidates additionally – Book 8: *Pastoral Ministry* by MacArthur (write a 3 page synopsis)

October

Answering The Curious & Critical (1 Module)

13th (7-9pm)

Mod 16: Defending and Refuting (Apologetics)

We Are Redemption Church (1 Module)

27th (7-9pm)

Mod 17: Who We Are: Redemption Vision, Values and Vibe

For elder candidates – ½ page synopsis

For ordained elder candidates additionally – Book 9: *The Reason For God* by Keller (write a 2 page synopsis)

For potential elders - 2nd interview and evaluation with oral intensive designed to see the synthesis of belief and practice. The second oral intensive is to be conducted by the elders with an open invitation for the whole church.

For ordained elder candidates additionally – A final 10 page minimum philosophy of ministry paper due by Nov. 15th.

November

10th (7-9pm)

Mod 18: Oral Final For Potential Elders

Philosophy of Ministry Due for Ordination Candidates (Nov. 15th)

December

Congregational Affirmation of Elder Candidates / Installation of Deacons