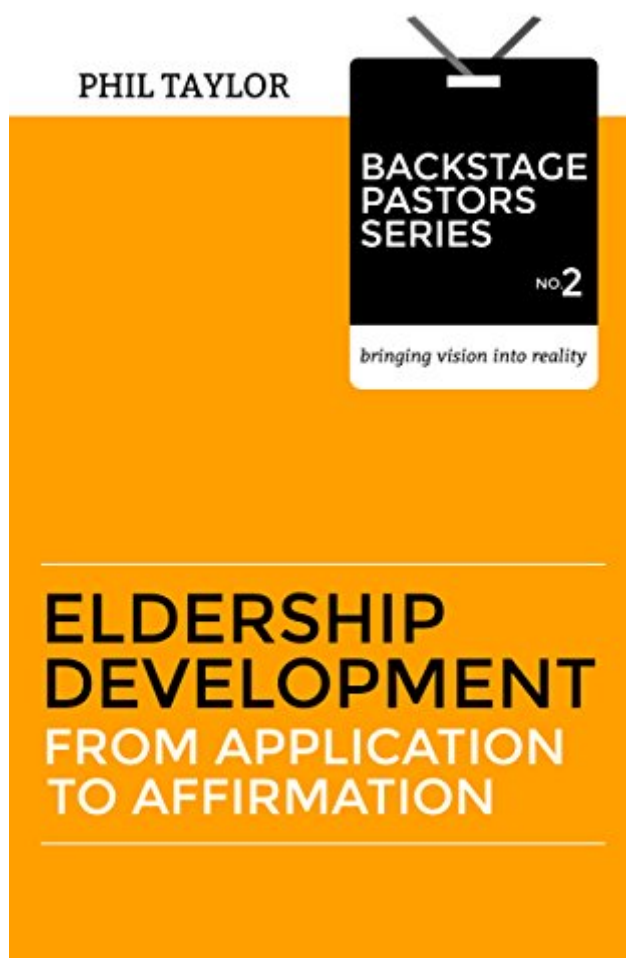


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# Eldership Development: From Application To Affirmation (Backstage Pastors-Bringing Vision Into Reality Book 2)



## Synopsis

There have been many great books written on the need for Biblically qualified elders in the church. They do an excellent job unpacking the pertinent scriptures and theology to explain both why we need elders and what they should look like, act like, smell like, etc. once we have them. This is not one of those books. Rather, "Eldership Development-From Application to Affirmation" seeks to show you the actual process that one church uses to develop their elders over a two year period. Think of it like a case-study. You'll see the prerequisites and the application that potential elders fill out, and even the questions asked during the interviews. You'll get an in-depth look at the two year process, all the way to the final moment when you affirm the new elder on stage in a gathering. Along the way, the author stops to explain from experience why he made the decisions he made on everything from book assignments to awkward questions in an application. After you've read the books that tell you why you need church elders and what the Bible teaches, consult this book to build your own Eldership Development program at your local church. This field tested guide is meant to save you time and energy as you train up your church elders so that you can get on with the work of pastoring well.

Contents include:

- Introduction
- Step One: Surfacing Potential Elders
- Step Two: The Prerequisites to Entering the Eldership Development Process
- Step Three: The Application and Post Application Meeting
- Step Four: Year One of the Elder Development Collective
- Step Five: Year Two of the Elder Development Collective
- Step Six: The Post Development Process Check-In Form
- Step Seven: The Final Meeting Before the Public Affirmation
- Step Eight: Public Affirmation
- Conclusion
- Appendix 1: Our Covenant Partnership Agreement
- Appendix 2: Our Elders/Pastors Covenant
- Appendix 3: Our Experiment with the Elder Teams Model
- Appendix 4: How to Get Everything You See Here in a Word File
- Bibliography and Resources on Biblical Eldership

About the Backstage Pastors Series: The Backstage Pastors series of books have been designed to target specific topics with enough depth to provide meaningful direction but with brevity that facilitates reading or skimming quickly. My hope is to put extremely practical tools into your hands at a reasonable cost that will quickly train you up so that you are quickly freed up to continue with the demands of life and ministry.

Other titles from this series: "Defining The Executive Pastor Role" (available in English and Spanish via ebook and paperback)

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Great book filled with practical insights and practices to develop Elders in a church. This book moves quickly from the theoretical and talks about the actual "how and "what" developing Elders should look like. This is the type of resource that many more pastors need to get their hands on and read ASAP.

An excellent tool to have if you're looking to develop a strong Elder team. Phil does a great job at finding the balance between the theology, theory and praxis of what Eldership looks like.

I appreciate the time and effort Phil put into his new book, "Eldership Development." Much of what I do for personal reading is a "one and done," meaning that I read it once and probably will not read it again. Not this work. There are three reasons that I will continue to use this text into the future:1) It is immensely practical. For something as important as the development of church leadership, I would rather have someone "show me" than just read theory and come up with my own game plan. Phil does this remarkably well. He talks through the process as if he is personally mentoring you and also includes actual communication and logistical timelines. It really made sense.2) It gives you a vision for where things could be. It was strategically helpful for me to read of Phil's passion for

leadership development. It also allowed me to simultaneously view our own elder process and see specifically where our framework could be more robust. It excited me to read this book because I recognize deficiencies that I did not recognize as such. Kind of the "you don't know what you don't know."3) Not only is this a tremendous "boots on the ground" resource, but I came away with an increased sense of the importance of doing this process well. That elder leadership is critically important and that the vetting process cannot be underestimated. It also reminded me of the high calling of being an elder. I greatly appreciated Phil's emphasis of the shepherding aspect of being an elder over the elder position being looked to primarily for making decisions. Phil is an engaging and practical writer. Like his first book "Defining the Executive Pastor Role," this book packs in a lot. You do not come away feeling as if he just repeats the same ideas over and over. It is brief, succinct, and you leave with a definite game plan for how to bring in and develop and shepherd elders. I came away feeling better equipped and with clarity on our own elder process. And Phil makes it easy by being willing to send you WORD documents of all his processes and communication.

This book is not about the theology about eldership. As the Author suggests there are some books where that needs to be your starting point. But if you are like me you have read those books and need help putting the theology in practice then you need this book. You can tell that this book has been written by someone who has been in the trenches of developing elders for the church. I hope you will enjoy this book and find it on your shelf in developing elders for years to come.

Phil Taylor is a beast when it comes to systems, structures and processes. He is also a godly, humble pastor. Both by God's grace. He has left nothing out of this helpful book. From the emails he sends to the reasons he does what he does. Phil has served us well with this resource. This book is a combination of all of those gifts. If you are thinking through an elder process or if you have one already and want to make it better. This book will be helpful.

I received this book free at an XPastor conference in return for a review... great book that is thoroughly practical without claiming to be "the" way to do it. The fact that I lean the same way as Phil on theology and elder function didn't hurt either. Good read and very useful!

This is a very helpful resource that I'd recommend to any church planter who's thinking through how to start or develop an elder board. Easy read with lots of great information in it. Thanks for sharing

what you've learned from your experiences, Phil!

Clear & practical - thank you for this great resource!

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