

# Shoulder to Shoulder Bible Study

A Bible Study Series of The Mt. Zion Church  
We Have the Vision to be a LEARNING Church!  
We are Rooted in Christ and Reaching the One!

Pastor Ken Patterson, Ph.D.



Book: *Shoulder to Shoulder: Strengthening Your Church  
by Supporting Your Pastor*  
By  
Dan Reiland



## Facilitators

Bro. Thomas Clement, Sis. Hillary Harris, Sis. Angela Oatis, and Rev. Harold Whitaker

# Chapter 1

## I Thought My Pastor Was Supposed to Support Me!

*Jeremiah 3: 15* And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

**Introduction:** You are either a new member, returning member, considering becoming a member, or a long-time member of a church. You joined (or will), they signed you up, but now what? You came with preconceived ideas of what church was all about and what you could do to fulfill your role in the church. Perhaps you liked the preacher or the friendliness of the people. You connected and now you are here, but have you ever considered that your membership in the local church is a multi-faceted relationship between you and your pastor? Today's lesson will begin the exploration of that relationship and uncover some misconceptions, and perhaps even some possibilities of how you can live out your role as a supporter of your pastor and the ministry of your church!



### Chapter 1 Questions

1. Why did you join the church you attend?
2. What is the role of the pastor? Where did you get this idea from?
3. What is the role of members? Where did you get this idea from?
4. What are some challenges you perceive in being a pastor?
5. Read Jeremiah 3: 15 Why do you think God is the one who chooses pastors versus people? What are the signs that God has chosen your pastor?
6. What expectations do you have of your pastor that might be unrealistic? (Be honest)
7. What types of things do you pray for your pastor? If you have not prayed for your pastor why not?

# Take Aways

Read the 7 Misconceptions and the 7 Realities of Pastors on pages 5-16

1. Which of the 7 Misconceptions stood out to you and why?


2. Which of the 7 Realities stood out to you and why?


Read Support is God's Idea page 16

Close with Ephesians 4: 11-12

1. How do these two verses define the partnership needed between pastor and people?


What are your next steps based on this lesson?


Closing Prayer