

The Unity of the Local Church

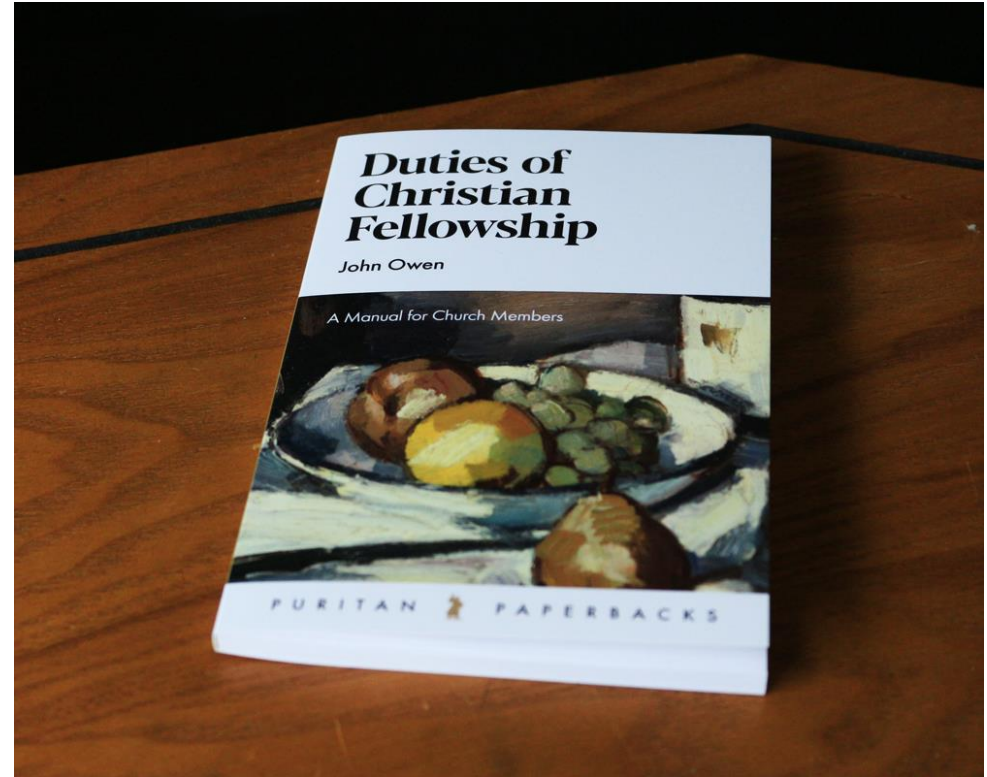
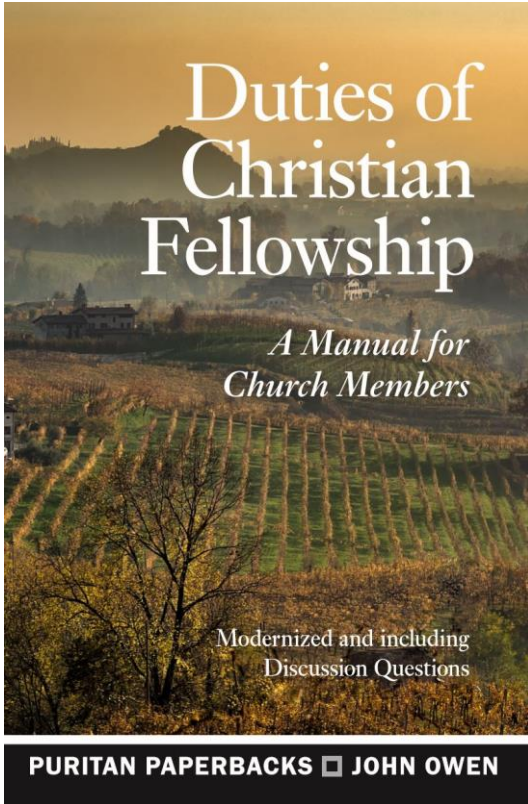
In relation to the office of pastor

Introduction: Review

- Local Church Unity
 - Built on Union with Christ
 - Received from God

Introduction: Review

- Local Church Unity
 - Maintained through elders administering the means of grace
 - Commanded
 - Ability
 - Authority
 - Good of each church



Introduction

Introduction

- Colonel Aubrey Newman
- Battle of Leyte, Philippines
- “Follow me!”



Introduction: Outline

- Structure:
 - What do we do?
 - How do we do it?

Main Point

- **Following the pastor(s) preserves the unity of a local church**

We Follow our Pastors

- As Examples
- Hebrews 13:7, “Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.”

We Follow our Pastors

- As Examples
- 1 Peter 5:1-3

We Follow our Pastors

- As Examples
- Philippians 3:17-19

We Follow our Pastors

- **As Examples**
- **Old Covenant: Ex 28, 29, 1 Kgs 7, Ez 34**
- **New Covenant: Jhn 10, Eph 4, 1 Ptr 5**

We Follow our Pastors

- As Leaders
- Acts 14

We Follow our Pastors by:

- Praying
- Ephesians 6:18-20

We Follow our Pastors by:

- Praying
- 2 Thessalonians 3:1-2, “Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith.”

We Follow our Pastors by:

- Praying
- Colossians 4:3, “At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ”

We Follow our Pastors by:

- Praying
- Acts 12:5, “So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.”

We Follow our Pastors by:

- Praying is necessary
 - A great work
 - An opposed work
 - An important work
 - A convicting work

We Follow our Pastors by:

- Praying is necessary
 - Joining with your pastor in his labor
 - Results in the good of the congregation

We Follow our Pastors by:

- Respecting
 - 1 Peter 5, Hebrews 13:17
 - 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13, “esteem them very highly in love because of their work”

We Follow our Pastors by:

- Supporting
 - Financially
 - In times of persecution

Conclusion

- Your pastors as example
- Supporting your pastor
- Great benefit to the church