

in the word.<sup>30</sup> The word does not simply mean to lead in the sense of being first in order of rank, but conveys the idea of caring for or being responsible for the welfare of the people ruled. As Bo Reicke comments, "οἱ προϊόταμενοι" are a special group separated by the Spirit for the primary task of caring for others."<sup>31</sup>

In a multiple staff very often all the staff members are elders and therefore, are all οἱ προϊόταμενοι, that is leaders over the people of God. Each staff must have its internal structure and someone must be the leader. (Some have experimented with the leaderless team, but it has been discovered that if the team does not recognize a team leader, the congregation will.)

The team leader is responsible for both the coherence of the team as well as its function. Coherence has to do with the maintenance of the team. The care of those other team members and their harmonious cooperation is in view. Function refers to the planning and performance of the tasks for which the team is responsible.

The following list of requirements for staff coherence is based upon a similar list in Kenneth R. Mitchell's book entitled Psychological and Theological Relationships in the Multiple Staff Ministry.<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>30</sup>Dibelius, Martin, <sup>and</sup> Congelmann, Hans, The Pastoral Epistles, (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1972), p. 151.

<sup>31</sup>Theological Dictionary of the New Testament, vol. 6, pp. 700-702.

<sup>32</sup>Mitchell, Psychological and Theological Relationships, p. 161.