

- Three ways by which we can establish authority:
  - Direct command or precept.
    - This is a direct statement of what is to be done or not done.
    - Commands in the negative.
       1 Thess. 5:22; Eph. 5:7-8
    - Commands in the positive. Acts 2:38; Luke 22:19
    - Some commands are generic. Matt. 28:19

- Three ways by which we can establish authority:
  - Approved apostolic example.
    - This is the practice of the apostles or of Christians approved by God.
    - Many practices recorded in the N.T. that apostles did not approve.
      - Gal. 2:11-14; 1 Cor. 11:20-22, 34
    - Their example was taught in every church. 1 Cor. 4:16-17; Phil. 4:9; 2 Thess. 3:7-9
    - Also the example of Christians approved by the apostles. Acts 20:7; 3 John 5-8

- Three ways by which we can establish authority:
  - Necessary inference or necessary conclusion.
    - Something that is not expressly declared or exemplified, but is implied by the language used.
    - Jesus taught using necessary implication.
       Matt. 22:23-33
    - Thus there are certain things we can infer, even though not explicitly said. Acts 8:38; 1 Pet. 5:1
    - But must understand the difference between necessary inference and forced inference. Exam. *Acts* 16:14-15, 31-33

- All three of these methods illustrated in the L. S.
  - Any one of these methods establishes authority, but we must always look at all of God's word for complete understanding of any topic. *Psa.* 119:160
  - The L.S. commanded. 1 Cor. 11:23-25
  - The example of the observance of the L.S. 1 Cor. 11:20-21; Acts 2:42
  - The inference as to the day they practiced it.

    Acts 20:7; cf. Exo. 20:8; Num. 10:10; Lev. 23:27

