

Lessons In Leadership

“Elders: Wanted, Men of Character”

1 Timothy 3:1-7 (page 823); Titus 1:5-9 (page 827)

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Two important o b s e r v a t i o n s as we begin:

- A n y Christian m a n man seek this role (1 Tim 3:1)
- The c r i t e r i a for selection and approval is m a t u r i t y in Jesus Christ (1Tim 3:2-7; Tit 1:6-9)

G e n e r a l Qualification (1 Tim 3:2a; Tit 1:6, 7)

- An elder must be one whose c h a r a c t e r and c o n d u c t is free from a c c u s a t i o n – *above reproach*

P e r s o n a l Qualifications (1 Tim 3:2b-3; Tit 1:7-8)

An elder must:

- Be f a i t h f u l to his wife – a “o n e - woman man” (1Tim 3:2; Tit 1:6)
- Be spiritually s t a b l e – *temperate* (1 Tim 3:2)
- Be b a l a n c e d and s e n s i b l e – *self-controlled / sensible* (1 Tim 3:2; Tit 1:8)
- Live an o r d e r l y lifestyle – *respectable / upright* (1 Tim 3:2; Tit 1:8)
- O p e n his home to o t h e r s – *hospitable* (1 Tim 3:2; Tit 1:8)
- Be c a p a b l e and c o m p e t e n t to t e a c h the truth – *apt to teach* (1 Tim 3:2)
- Not be c o n t r o l l e d by o u t s i d e forces – *drunkenness / self-controlled* (1 Tim 3:3; Tit 1:7,8)
- Not be given to physical/verbal v i o l e n c e but is p a t i e n t and r e a s o n a b l e (1 Tim 3:3; Tit 1:7)
- Not be a r g u m e n t a t i v e – *quarrelsome / overbearing* (1 Tim 3:3; Tit 1:7)
- Have an attitude of c o n t e n t m e n t – *not a lover of money / greedy for gain* (1 Tim 3:3; Tit 1:7)

(Please turn over)

F a m i l y Qualifications (1 Tim 3:4-5; Titus 1:6)

An elder will demonstrate l e a d e r s h i p in his f a m i l y

S p i r i t u a l Qualifications (1 Tim 3:6; Tit 1:9)

An elder:

- Must demonstrate spiritual m a t u r i t y – *not a recent convert*
- Must be c o m m i t t e d to God’s W o r d,
 - To e n c o u r a g e others with the Scriptures
 - To p r e s e r v e it from the d i s t o r t i o n of false teachers

C o m m u n i t y Qualifications (1 Tim 3:7)

An elder maintains a f a v o r a b l e testimony in the l o c a l community

Bringing it in focus....

W h y are these issues i m p o r t a n t to the local church?

The h e a l t h and effectiveness of the church depends upon its l e a d e r s h i p