



October 4, 2020
Character of Leaders
1 Timothy 3:1-13



CELEBRATION - HOW DID YOU SEE GOD THIS WEEK AS YOU FOLLOWED HIM?



WORD - WHAT DID GOD SAY IN HIS WORD?

Opening Question: Think of someone who you feel is a good leader. What characteristics do they have or how have you seen their leadership demonstrated?

In America we have developed a celebrity culture, placing incredible pressure to perform for all kinds of leaders. This is true of athletes, politicians, and it also affects pastors and leaders in the church. What should our expectation be for our church leaders?

Read together: 1 Timothy 3:1-13

Reflect together:

The “overseer” (the singular form is used in these verses) corresponds roughly to the senior pastor of the church today. What character qualities is he to possess in verses 2-3?

Why is it important that he manage his household well, not be a recent convert, and have a good reputation with outsiders?

According to Acts 6:1-6, deacons were appointed to serve so that elders were freed up to give their full attention to prayer and the ministry of the word. Compare the qualifications of the overseer to deacons.

In v. 11, the Greek for the word “wives” simply means “women,” so some have interpreted the verse to refer to deaconesses or female deacons. What characteristics should the women have?



HEART - WHAT DID GOD SAY TO ME THROUGH HIS WORD?

What mistaken expectations for leaders does this passage correct for you?

What steps might God be inviting you to take when you look at the character of leaders called for in this passage?



WORLD - WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO DO ABOUT IT?

How can we counter the celebrity culture that is promoted on social media and instead help instill these qualities in our church and in the next generation?

In light of the biblical criteria for leaders, close in prayer for spiritual protection of our leaders.