

1 Timothy 3:1-13 – Godly living and church leadership

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1 Timothy ... so far

So what sort of leaders should they be seeking to follow?

A very normal Christian overseer (v1-7)

... basically the same as every other normal Christian is seeking to become.

Above reproach...

- Faithful to their wife...
- Temperate
- Self controlled.
- Respectable
- Hospitable
- Not to be a drunkard
- Not to be violent
- Not to be quarrelsome
- Not to be a lover of money
- Managing his family well and seeing that his children obey him.

Note: An overseer is not someone who has perfect Godly living in any of these areas.

- Paul is worst of sinners
- 1 Tim 4:15.. Timothy is to be diligent in these matters so that everyone can see his progress

But also different

He should not be a recent convert ...

He should be able to teach God's word to God's people.

Some things to think about

... How recent is too recent?

... If someone who is an overseer is wrong in anyway should he be expelled from the position?

... the ability to teach has nothing to do with the ability to entertain an audience nor is it to be super eloquent.

... what if they are not the best teacher possible?

More stuff on overseers

1) Bishops then does not equal bishops now.

2) Terms are loosely held.

The Deacons (v8-13)

... the character traits of people who are to serve the local church as deacons.

Deacons ... basically it means 'one who serves'. Deacons can be men or women

Verse 11 ... women can be deacons as well.

- See Romans 16:1 ... Phoebe was a deaconess.

For us today

Who are our overseers and deacons?

Who are the deacons?

So where to from here?

- How do we grow Godly leaders?

When it comes to leadership in the church, how do you approach that sort of thinking?