

## I Am a Church Member: Pray for your leaders

**Opening Question:** What is the most common prayer request you have made for yourself and or heard from others?

1. **Read James 3:1.** Have you considered those who are responsible for communicating God's word fall under stricter judgment? How does this knowledge inform your need to pray for the leaders within the church?
2. **Read 2 Timothy 2:14-17a.** What is required of servant/teacher for the Lord? What warning do we receive for those who mishandle the Word of God? Why is it critical that our leaders handle the word of truth properly?
3. **Read 1 Timothy 3:4-5.** Consider the culture in which we live. How easy is it to "manage family well"? The term "PK" (Pastors Kid) has become synonymous with kids whose lives have gone off the rails. Do you have personal examples of this? Why do you think this trend exists? How can you as a Life Group pray for and support the pastor and his family to avoid this trend in our local church body?
4. Have you ever thought of what we expect of a pastor? How realistic would you say your expectations are? What is the source of your expectations? **See page 2 graphic.** How realistic are these expectations represented here? What are the Bible's expectations? **See 1 Timothy 3:2-4.**
5. **Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10.** Who was allowed to torment Paul? What is the significance of this? Have you considered the fact that a servant for Christ (as well as their family) has a target on their back? What are your thoughts regarding a pastor/leader/or their family being tormented by the enemy? What is the role of the body of Christ to assist in this area?

### Application

- **Pray for your church leaders today.** Pastor Chris & Holly (aka Commander Holly), **Board Members:** Jim W., Jim C., Trish C. **Directors:** Pastor David, Kevin, Mary, Byran.
- How can you as a Life Group continue to pray for and be a blessing to those who lead Sunrise?

# The Ideal Pastor

