

Home: A Guide for Flourishing in the Family of God
“Above Reproach in Public Humility”

1 Timothy 3:1–13
The Lord’s Day Morning
March 19, 2023

God expects his family to be served by qualified leaders who are above reproach. To be "above reproach" doesn't mean you never sin. It means that you are so sensitive to the loving rebuke and correction of God, that you repent of private sin that God sees before it leads to public sin that people see (1 Sam. 16:7; Pr. 15:3; Heb. 12:6; Mt. 6:6). Public sin damages the credibility of the man and the church he represents. By the grace of God, all believers can become the person described in this list of character traits. Here are the seven main areas in which all believers should strive to be above reproach:

Marital Fidelity
Family Priority
Verbal Integrity
Financial Accountability
Doctrinal Purity
Emotional Maturity
Public Humility

To display public humility:

1. Avoid verbal and non-verbal _____ (*respectable*, 2).
2. Show _____ toward all people, regardless of _____ (*hospitable*, 2)
3. Be content to be faithful on a _____ (*recent convert*, 6; *tested*, 10).
4. Love and live among _____ who _____ your integrity (*well thought of*, 7; *dignified*, 8).