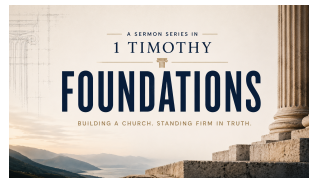




REDEMPTION
CITY CHURCH

Week #5
Follow the Leader.
1 Timothy 3:1-7



STICKY STATEMENT:

YOUR ROPE DOESN'T LIE. IS YOUR LIFE WORTH FOLLOWING?

Leadership is NOT a title on a door or a position someone holds. Real biblical leadership is stewarding the INFLUENCE God entrusts to you.

3 WORDS FOR LEADERS IN THE CHURCH

Episkopos (overseer)... refers to his leadership responsibility

Presbyteros (elder)...speaks to his spiritual maturity.

Poimēn (shepherd/pastor) ... refers to his feeding responsibility

"Here is a trustworthy saying: *Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task.* ² Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³ not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. ⁴ He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect. ⁵ (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) ⁶ He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. ⁷ He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap." 1 Timothy 3:1-7

THERE ARE 4 AREAS LEADERS IN THE CHURCH MUST BE BLAMELESS:

1. BLAMELESS IN _____. V2-3

² Now the overseer is to be above reproach. V2

above reproach = "nothing to lay hold of."

**The one who leads the church doesn't just teach the pattern.
He is the pattern.**

Blameless ... one-woman man, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money.

Your rope doesn't lie... are you living blameless in your character?

2. BLAMELESS IN _____. V4-5

⁴ He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect. ⁵ (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?)

Your rope doesn't lie... are you living blameless in your Family?

Q: If someone watched how you lead your household this week, would they conclude you manage it well? What's one area — your marriage, your kids, your home atmosphere — where you're leading everyone else but neglecting your own house?

Q: Are you more patient and present with people at church than you are with your own spouse or children? What would your family say is different about you outside these walls versus inside them?

3. BLAMELESS IN _____. V6

⁶ He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil." V6

4. BLAMELESS IN _____. V7

⁷ He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap." V7

Your rope doesn't lie... are you living blameless in your reputation?

Q: Are you the same Monday that you are Sunday? If a non-Christian coworker, neighbor, or family member described your character, would their description match what your church family sees on Sunday? Where's the gap?

Your rope doesn't lie. Is your life worth following?

DO THE WORD: "be above reproach." V2

Which line Stings? (Circle the ones that apply)

"...one woman man, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money...manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, reputation beyond Sunday with outsiders in the world."

Pray: Jesus, I want to be blameless in the area of ... Jesus, form me and make me in this area more like you because I want to live a life worth following.