

## FELLOWSHIP NOTES ~ MARCH 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022



### Part 2: “Leadership for Good Works” (Part 2)

Titus 1:5-9

#### Qualifications for Church Leadership

1. \_\_\_\_\_: cannot be accused of anything sinful - vs. 6
2. \_\_\_\_\_: A man who is utterly single-minded in his devotion to his wife – vs. 6
3. Having children who believe and are not \_\_\_\_\_: leading in a godly way the lives of his children – vs. 6
4. Not \_\_\_\_\_: submissive – vs. 7
5. Not \_\_\_\_\_: practicing patience, balanced perspective – vs. 7
6. Not an \_\_\_\_\_: to have no addition to anything that is controlling one’s life – vs. 7
7. Not a \_\_\_\_\_; doesn’t pick fights or abuse others in any way– vs. 7
8. Not \_\_\_\_\_: Seeking first the kingdom of God and his righteousness – vs. 7
9. \_\_\_\_\_: Loves in practical ways not just those in the church body but especially those outside the church family – vs. 8
10. Loving what is \_\_\_\_\_: Desiring to associate oneself with truth, honor and integrity – vs. 8
11. \_\_\_\_\_: prudent; wise – vs. 8



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12. \_\_\_\_\_: just; Christ-like – vs. 8

13. \_\_\_\_\_: devoted to God – vs. 8

14. \_\_\_\_\_: practicing submission– vs. 8

15. Possess a deep commitment to the \_\_\_\_\_ so that he is able to build up the church family with sound biblical doctrine and teaching, as well confront those who espouse teaching that is contrary to Scripture.

Comparison of Elder's Qualifications:

<b>1 Timothy 3</b>	<b>Titus 1</b>
· above reproach (v. 2)	· above reproach (v. 6)
· the husband of one wife (v. 2)	· the husband of one wife (v. 6)
· temperate (v. 2)	· self-controlled
· prudent (v. 2)	· sensible
· respectable (v. 2)	
· hospitable (v. 2)	· hospitable (v. 8)
· able to teach (v. 2)	· able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict (v. 9)
· not addicted to wine (v. 3)	· not addicted to wine (v. 7)
· not pugnacious (v. 3)	· not pugnacious (v. 7)
· gentle (v. 3)	
· peaceable (v. 3)	
· free from the love of money (v. 3)	· not fond of sordid gain (v. 7)
· ruling his household well (v. 4)	· above reproach as God's steward (v. 7)
· having children under control with dignity (v. 4)	· having children who are not accused of dissipation or rebellion (v. 6)
· not a new convert (v. 6)	
· of good reputation outside the church (v. 7)	
	· not self-willed (v. 7) · not quick-tempered (v. 7) · loving what is good (v. 8) · just (v. 8) · devout (v. 8)

## Growth Group Study Guide for March 6<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>

### Getting Started

Group Discussion: What is so important about a reputation and why should it matter if we as Christians have good reputations in the community where we live?

### Digging Deeper

1. In our study of Titus chapter 1, we've learned that there are specific qualifications that we should look for in the men that are appointed as leaders in our church. What is the overarching character quality we should look for and why is it so important that elders have this as a reputation? (Read Titus 1:6a, 7a) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Read Titus 1:6b. What is the first area in which an elder had to be and have a reputation of being blameless? \_\_\_\_\_

An elder is to be the husband of one wife, or a "one woman man". In the first century when these qualifications were given to the church it was very common for men of wealth to retain prostitutes at the local temples and to have their own "slave girls" in their extended family quarters. Their wives in that culture could only accept this arrangement as normal. They had very little choice. But when the gospel penetrated these pagan cultures, men had to make a choice to put aside these practices and be committed in every way to one woman, their wife. They had to become a "one woman man". This is probably one of the main reasons Paul gave this qualification to both Titus and Timothy.

3. Read Titus 1:6c. What is the second area in which an elder must be blameless? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Having believing children is another area in which an elder is to be blameless. While no man can make his children accept Christ as their Savior, there should be evidence in the life of an elder's life and family that he has been both an example of the gospel and a teacher of it to his children. The emphasis here is on an elder's grown children that they also not be wild or rebellious. An elder must not be known as the father of wild and rebellious children who are living sinful lives in rejection of the gospel. An Old Testament example of this is Eli who was the leader of God's people but had sons who were wicked and rebellious against God (see 1 Samuel 2:12ff).

4. In the first qualifications given, we have seen that an elder must first be faithful at home, with his wife and children. Why is it important that this be a primary area of blamelessness for an elder? (Read 1 Timothy 3:4-5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The home is the training ground for the church. If a man hasn't exerted godly leadership in the home, then there is a high probability that he won't provide godly leadership in the church which is also a family. If there is evidence of good spiritual leadership in his family, as seen in the lives of his wife and children, then he has shown evidence that he could be a good candidate for being an elder in the church family.

5. The qualifications listed in verses 7-8 are personal character qualities that should be evidenced in a man who serves as an elder. Why do you think a man's personal character is so critical to church leadership? \_\_\_\_\_

Verse 7 says that "as an overseer of God's household an elder must be blameless". Elders must be men of high character quality because they oversee God's household, the church. An elder is a father to a local church family. He oversees and cares for the family of faith. A man with poor or bad character qualities could do great damage to a local church if allowed to serve in leadership.

6. Read Titus 1:9. What does this verse say about what is required of an elder in leadership in the church?

Why is this so important? \_\_\_\_\_

Elders need to have a firm grasp on God's Word because they have a vital, twofold teaching task within the life of the church: they must be men of solid biblical convictions so that they can give instruction in sound doctrine as well as rebuke those who contradict sound biblical doctrine.

7. What are the other qualifications for elders not listed in Titus but found in 1 Timothy? (See the chart on page 2): \_\_\_\_\_

## Conclusion:

Only when its leadership is right can a congregation be right. They will never be perfect or infallible, but godly men are Christ's instruments for leading and shepherding His people. They have the right to lead the congregation and to make decisions for them in the Lord, and they are to be respected, loved and followed in the Lord.

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 *"Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other."*

Hebrews 13:17 *"Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you."*

God's people are to follow, not quibble with and question godly leaders who are one in mind as to God's Word and will. In God's order a congregation is to be under the rule of its leaders just as children are to be under the rule of their parents. Pastoral elders should make decisions on the basis of unanimous agreement. Because the Holy Spirit has but one will, and because a church must be in complete harmony with His will, the leaders must be in complete harmony with each other in that will. The congregation then is to submit to the elders because it has confidence that the elders' decisions are made under the Spirit's direction and power.

## Wrapping Up

This brief study only covers the qualifications for church leaders. For more on the structure of leadership at Fellowship, the tasks that elders perform and answers to many more questions on this topic, pick up the document, THE STRUCTURE OF LEADERSHIP AT FELLOWSHIP CHURCH at the tower in the lobby.