

1 TIMOTHY

GOD'S PLAN FOR HIS CHURCH

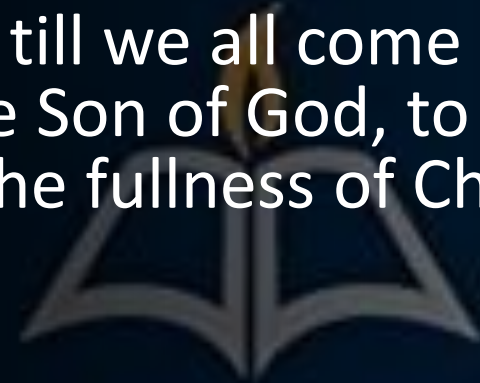


Effective Elders

1 Timothy 3:1-7

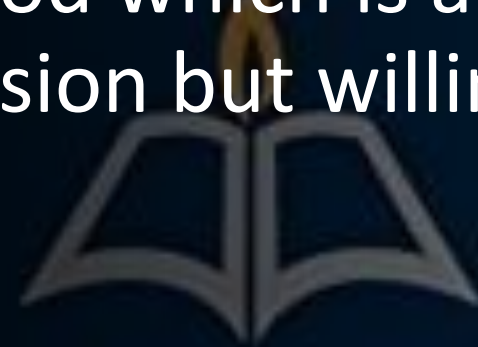
Choosing the Right Men for Leadership in the Church

- Chosen for their proven character
- Christlike disposition (work well with people)
- Devotion to Christ, commitment to His church
- Men who understand the ultimate goal
 - Eph 4:11-13 or the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³ till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ



They Watch over Your Souls

- Hebrews 13:17 Obey those who rule (lead) over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls
- Acts 20:28 take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.
- 1 Peter 5:2 Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly



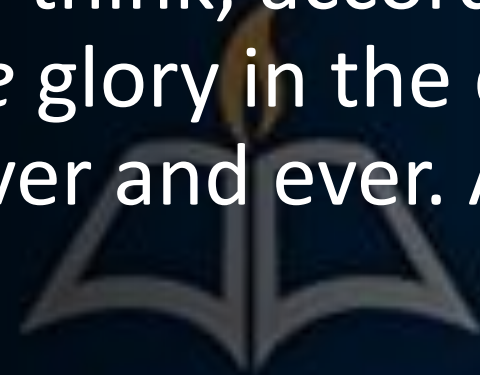
Three names for Church leaders

- Shepherds — caring, feeding, protecting the flock
- Overseers — organizing, planning our work together
(bishops)
- Elders — wisdom of knowledge & life experience
(presbyters)



The purpose of glorifying God

- Philippians 1:20 my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death
- Ephesians 3:20-21 to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, ²¹ to Him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.



God raises up leaders for His people

- In Bible times .. Patriarchs, prophets, judges, kings, priests, and apostles
 - Now.. there are elders
- In Bible days .. Moses, David, and Paul
 - Now.. there are humble, godly men (like the men of this congregation)



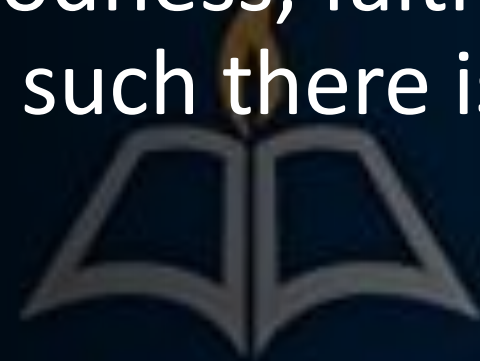
A Christlike leader is Servant-hearted

- Mark 10:45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many
- Matthew 23:11 But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant
- Matthew 7:20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them.



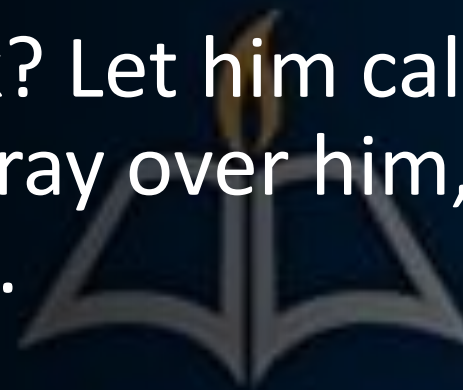
A Christlike leader is Self Controlled

- Acts 24:25 as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and answered, “Go away for now; when I have a convenient time I will call for you.”
- Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.



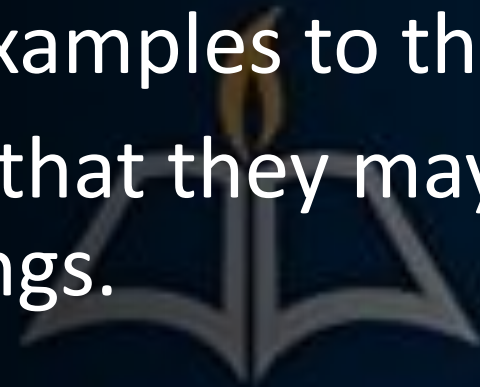
A Christlike leader is Trustworthy

- Acts 20:28-29 Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.
- Genesis 12:2 I will make you and great nation; I will bless you and make your name great, and you shall be a blessing
- James 5:14 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.



A Christlike leader is Selfless

- 2 Corinthians 10:1 I, Paul, myself am pleading with you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—who in presence *am* lowly among you, but being absent am bold toward you
- 1 Peter 5:2-3 Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; ³ nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock
- Titus 2:10 showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.



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