

GENDER ROLES IN THE CHURCH

PART 2

1 TIMOTHY 3:1-7

6-4-23

I. WHY DO WE NEED STRONG LEADERS?

ACTS 20:28-31 - *“Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹ I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰ and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹ Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears”*

~ Because... Wolves Exist

II. MALE LEADERSHIP IN THE CHURCH = ELDERS

1 TIMOTHY 3:1-7 - *“The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. ² Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³ not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. ⁴ He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, ⁵ for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God’s church? ⁶ He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. ⁷ Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.”*

1. This is not for EVERY MAN
2. CHARACTER of an Elder
3. LEADERSHIP of an Elder – *“Manage His own household well”*
4. EXPERIENCE of an Elder – *“Not a recent convert”*
5. REPUTATION of an Elder – *“well thought of by outsiders”*
6. RESPONSIBILITY of an Elder – *“Able to teach”*

GROWING DEEPER THIS WEEK

1. What was one thing that you took away from the message this week?
2. Who is a Church leader that has impacted you in your faith journey? What characterized their life?
3. Recently, it feels as though more Pastors are failing in ministry. Why do you think this is?
4. Why do you think that Churches are more apt to focus more on a Pastors proficiency as opposed to his character? How could this be dangerous to a church?
5. Why is it important for Paul to say that Elders should “aspire” to the position of Elder?
6. What does it say about the importance of the position of Elder that people should aspire to it? Why would someone want to aspire to become an Elder? Why would someone not want to?
7. Which of the qualifications of Elder stood out the most to you? Why?
8. Pastor Brandon encouraged us that the qualifications of an Elder are required of all Christians but exemplified in the leadership. How could a passage like this encourage you to pursue these character traits? What are some ways you can pursue these character traits in your life?

READ ACTS 20:28-31

9. Paul encourages the Elders at Ephesus to pay careful attention to two things here in v.28...what are they?
10. Why would it be important to pay attention to themselves as leaders? What are some important things that leaders can neglect?
11. How does Paul’s encouragement in v.31 to “be alert” of dangerous wolves pertain to the qualities found in 1 Timothy 3 to “be sober-minded”?