

SERMON STUDY GUIDE

September 6, 2026 | Rev. Josh Desch
Leadership

Sermon Text: Titus 1:5-9

Sermon Outline:

1. The High Calling of Leadership
2. Our Suspicion of Submission
3. Freedom from Ourselves

Questions:

1. What is Paul's strategy for growing up the Christians in the faith who live on Crete?
2. What are the main points of emphasis in Paul's list of qualifications for Elders/Overseers?
3. Why are Americans so often suspicious of submission? How does our political environment play into our suspicions of authority? How can the church be different from the government?
4. Many cultural commentators have noted that the dominant spirit of the age in America is that of Expressive Individualism, which means that our highest values are "individualism over community" and "expressing that identity in whatever way you want." How does that value come into conflict with Paul's words in Titus 1:5-9?
5. What does it look like for a member of NEPC to submit to the Session?
6. How can you encourage, support and assist those God has placed in leadership over you? How can you pray for our Session, Diaconate and Staff?