

Seeking God's Plan for His Family Qualified Leadership

2 Timothy 3:16-17 - *All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.*

Revelation 22:18-19 - *I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.*

Acts 20:28 - *Be on guard for yourselves and for 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.*

Acts 20:26-27 - *Therefore, I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all men. For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God.*

1 Timothy 1:5 - *But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.*

3 categories of people necessary for the church to focus on what really matters:

I. Women Who Adorn Themselves with Good Works

A. By dressing appropriately

Galatians 3:27-28 - For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

“adorn” and “proper” - “kosmeo” - “to arrange, to put in order, to make ready”

modestly – *aidos* – “modesty mixed with humility”...

“discreetly” - *sophrosunes* – self control, especially over sexual passions

How does a woman discern the sometimes fine line between proper dress and dressing to be the center of attention? The answer starts in the intent of the heart. A woman should examine her motives and goals for the way she dresses. Is her intent to show the grace and beauty of womanhood? Is it to show her love and devotion to her husband and his goodness to her? Is it to reveal a humble heart devoted to worshiping God? Or is it to call attention to herself, and flaunt her wealth and beauty? Or worse, to attempt to allure men sexually? A woman who focuses on worshiping God will consider carefully how she is dressed, because her heart will dictate her wardrobe and appearance. – John MacArthur, Commentary on 1 Timothy

B. By cultivating a life of good works

verse 10 – *but rather by means of good works.*

C. By learning joyfully

II. Pastors who Are Above Reproach

A. Motivated by a God-given desire

1 Timothy 3:1 - *This is a true saying, if a man desires the office of a bishop, he desires a good work.*

B. Family qualifications

1. the husband of one wife

2. manages his household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity

C. Character qualifications

temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable

D. Ministry qualifications

v. 2- *apt to teach*

v. 5 – *able to manage the church of God*

III. Deacons Who Are Men of Dignity

A. Who understand their role

B. Family qualifications

C. Character qualifications

D. Their reward

1 Timothy 3:13 - *For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a high standing and great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.*