

1 Timothy

Fight the Good Fight

The Portrait of an Elder

Introduction and Review (*1 Timothy 2:12, 1:3*)

The _____ to be an Elder (*1 Timothy 3:1; Acts 20:17, 28; Titus 1:5*)

The _____ to be an Elder

1. The Elder's _____ (*1 Timothy 3:2, 7; Matthew 26:65; Romans 12:18*)

2. The Elder's _____ (*1 Timothy 3:2*)

3. The Elder's _____ (*1 Timothy 3:2; 2 Samuel 16:13-14; Proverbs 16:32; Titus 1:8; Galatians 5:22-23*)

4. The Elder's _____ (*1 Timothy 3:2; Romans 12:13; 1 Peter 4:9; Titus 1:9*)

5. The Elder's _____ (*1 Timothy 3:3, 8; 1 Corinthians 11:21; Titus 1:7; Ephesians 5:18*)

6. The Elder's _____ (*1 Timothy 3:3; James 1:19*)

7. The Elder's _____ (*1 Timothy 3:3, 6:9-10; Matthew 6:24*)

8. The Elder's _____ (*1 Timothy 3:4-5, 15*)

9. The Elder's _____ (*1 Timothy 3:6; Proverbs 16:18*)

10. The Elder's _____ Again (*1 Timothy 3:7*)

Discussion Questions (*1 Timothy 3:1-7*)

1. Why do you think Paul, in *1 Timothy 3:1-7*, specifically gives Timothy this portrait of a good elder? (*1 Timothy 1:3-7*)
2. Why do you think the office of “overseer” (elder) is a “noble task”? How is aspiring to be an “overseer” different from aspiring to lead in other areas of life? (*1 Timothy 3:1*)
3. Do you think the list of qualifications to be an elder found in *1 Timothy 3:2-7* is exhaustive or just the bare minimum requirements? What might you add to the list? (*see Titus 1:5-16*)
4. What does it mean to be “above reproach” and how does this relate to all the qualification to be an elder? (*1 Timothy 3:2-7*)
5. Go through the list of qualifications for being an elder, what does each one mean? How might some qualifications be related to others? (*1 Timothy 3:2-7*)
6. Why is it of great importance to both God’s people and the world that God’s church be led by men who meet Paul’s qualifications?
7. Whether you are an elder or not, what qualifications would you like to grow in? (*1 Timothy 3:2-7*)
How can elders and others grow in these areas? (Galatians 5:23-24; Ephesians 5:18)
8. How does this passage help you pray for the elders of Bridges? Pray for the elders of Bridges.