

## Living Above Reproach - for His Glory

October 8, 2017

Oakbrook Community Church

Titus 1:5-16

Pastor Mark W. Turner

Titus: Paul wrote to outline the design for leaders & mature believers. Also wrote in 1 Timothy 3 concerning elders (1-7) and deacons (8-13). All for the purpose of growing the members of the Church: 1 Tim 4:6-11

Everyone should be "training yourself for godliness" 1 Timothy 4:7

### Godly Elders (men) & Godly believers:

#### 1. Reflect spiritual maturity in our home life

##### A. An Elder honors God's design for marriage

"One woman man" – respects God's design for marriage: Gen 2:18-25; Mt 19:3-12; Mal 2:15; 1 Cor 7:1-12; 1 Thes 4:1-8; Heb 13:4; 2 Cor 6:14.

##### B. An Elder's children reflect gracious leadership

1 Tim 3:4-5; Mt 20:25-28; Eph 6:1-4; 2 Tim 3:15

#### 2. Reflect spiritual maturity in personal character

##### A. Negatively, Mature believers are:

###### 1. Not arrogant or self-willed.

Stubborn, opinionated, always has to have own way...

###### 2. Not quick-tempered

Jms 1:19-20. Not a constant fighter – not angry quickly, listens 1<sup>st</sup>

###### 3. Not a drunkard - careful & prudent use of alcohol

Leaders beware: Prv 20:1; 23:29-25; 31:4-6;

Drunkenness forbidden: Eph 5:18; Rm 13:13; 1 Pt 4:3; 1 Cor 6:12.

Wise Use: Prv 3:9-10; Ps 104:15; Dt 14:23-26; 1 Tim 5:23

###### 4. Not violent or pugnacious

Gentleness & reason, not violence should be demeanor

###### 5. Not fond of sordid gain or a lover of money

Does he view himself as a steward of God's money or seek it?

##### B. Positively, Mature believers strive to:

###### 1. Be Hospitable

Rom 12:13; 1 Tim 5:10; Heb 13:2; 1 Pet 4:9

###### 2. Love what is good

Phil 4:8; Eph 4:24

###### 3. Be self-controlled or sensible

prudent, wise - 1 Tim 3:2; 2 Tim 1:7

###### 4. Be upright, righteous and just

Mt 1:19; Mt 5:45; Gal 3:11

###### 5. Be holy or devout

1 Tim 2:8; Rev 15:4 - as in pure

###### 6. Be disciplined or self-controlled

1 Cor 9:25 - athletic discipline; fruit of Spirit Gal 5:23

#### 3. Reflect spiritual maturity in commitment to God's Word

##### A. An Elder must encourage the sheep and give instruction

1 Tim 3:2; 5:17-18;

##### B. An Elder's must rebuke those who attack Christ's Church

Acts 20:28-32; Titus 1:10-16;

#### Discuss:

- Review the Officer Nomination Guide carefully
- Review the Church Directory – who might be a good candidate for Elder or Deacon?
- Are you aspiring to an office to serve?
- Should everyone be growing in these qualifications?
- Go through each of these qualifications... make a list of where you need to grow and how you can mature on each quality.
- How has a Godly elder (or person) helped you because they demonstrated one or more of these qualities?
- How should we be encouraging one another (1 Ths 5:11) towards these characteristics? Be specific. How does Heb 10:24-25 apply?