

I 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.

August 18, 2024

Today's Order of Service:

- Corporate Reading: 1 Timothy 3:1-7
- Romans 11 Doxology
- Simple Theology: 28-31
- Only a Holy God

Teaching: 1 Timothy 3:1-7

- Communion
- Collection of Tithes and Offerings
- Jesus Paid it All
- There is One Gospel
- Living Water
- Numbers 6:24

Upcoming Sermon Topics and Events: (also see website)

August 18 – Trellis & The Vine: 1 Timothy 3:1-7

August 25 – Trellis & The Vine: 1 Timothy 3:8-13

September 1 – Trellis & The Vine: 1 Timothy 3:14-4:5

September 8 – Trellis & The Vine: 1 Timothy 4:6-16

September 15 – Trellis & The Vine: 1 Timothy 5:1-16

GROWING TOGETHER SERIES: August 14, 21, 28. We will be taking three Wednesday evenings to talk about our beliefs together as a Church. Join us at 7pm Shepherd of the Hills Church

THE WORKSHOP: Men's Bible Study. This is an ongoing study that meets the FIRST Sunday morning of every month at 7:30 a.m. Meeting location is at Robb Besosa's woodshop: 460 Salt Creek Road. Next Meeting: August 4 at 7:30am. We will be studying Psalm 51. See Kevin Salsbery for assignments and materials.

LIVE STREAMING: If you cannot attend in person, you can join us by clicking the button on our home page at vineandbranch.family

EMAIL LIST: If you attend regularly and want to be kept updated on church information and events by being included on the email list, provide your email to Ian Smith; iansmith@ianlabs.com. These are sent out 2-3 times a month and include prayer requests and announcement.

MISSIONARIES and MINISTRIES:

- **Rajan & Helen Nehemiah**
Agape Christian Mission – India
Agapemissionindia.org
- **John & Brittany Bagatya**
YWAM Hopeland Base, Uganda
Bagatya.wordpress.com
- **40 Days for Life:** 40daysforlife.com

Please check out <https://vineandbranch.family/> for a more detailed calendar, weekly sermon series and study passages, events and to access previous sermons.

CONTEXT:

Timothy's task is to build spiritual walls. "Guard the Truth that leads to life." One of Timothy's main tasks in Ephesus is to develop leaders. And these need to be **qualified in the exact same areas they are calling people to follow**. The listed qualifications in 1 Timothy 3 are for the **leaders specifically, men in particular, and the church in general**.

The Goal for members of God's Household:

- **1:5** The Aim = love issuing from a pure heart and good conscious and sincere faith.
- **3:15** To behaving rightly as the household of God, the church of the living God who upholds truth in word and deed.
- **6:11** Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. Fight the fight of faith. Take hold of eternal life.

1 Timothy 3 can be applied by three groups of people who make up the church:

1. **Church in general** – If you are a Christian, these characteristics are mandates/aspirations for you whether you are a man, woman, married, single, young, and old.
2. **Men in Particular** – Because men are specifically designed to **lead, tend, protect** - all men of all ages, whether you aspire to official leadership or not, can take make direct application of 1 Timothy 3.
3. **Leaders Specifically** (Overseer's/Elders)– This is the primary focus of the passage, those who aspire to lead God's people have a calling not just in role, but also in exemplary **mindset** and **behavior** as living examples of God's Word applied. "Follow me as I follow Christ" (1 Cor 11:1).

1 Timothy 3:1 The first qualification; "Aspiration" = ambition to achieve. **The under-shepherd is to have a heart like the Chief Shepherd!** (1 Peter 5:2-4)

The Heart of Shepherd (Gen 15:1-18)

1. **God engages Abram**
 - God promise to make Abram and his family into a redemptive nation
 - God says I'll do it, Abram believes him, credited as righteousness
2. **God's covenant with Abram**
 - The LORD binds the contract, "When this covenant is broken, I will be torn to pieces."
3. **Covenant Fulfilled in Jesus**
 - Jesus, The Good Shepherd, lays down his life for the sheep
 - God says in Gen 15, "I will do it!" Jesus says in John 19:36 "It is finished!"

The Example of the Chief Shepherd (John 10:1-15)

- V. 3 "The sheep **hear his voice**, and he calls his own sheep **by name** and leads them out."
- V. 4 "He **goes before them** and the sheep **follow him**, for **they know his voice**."
- V. 13 The good shepherd **lays down his life** for the sheep."
- V 14, "I know my own and my own know me... I lay down my life for the sheep!"

"The HEART of the under-shepherd in pursuit of the Chief-Shepherd is the foundation for the qualifications!"

3 applications (something for everyone):

1. Identify with your Chief Shepherd and calling as a member of God's household,
2. Identify with your under-shepherds
3. Apply the Character Traits