

1 Timothy 3

Memory Verse: 1 Tim 3:15 But in case I am delayed, I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.

Begin with prayer. Ask the Lord to speak to you through His Holy Spirit. Use your Bible for the answers.

Day 1 ***Discover the information***-Read all of 1 Timothy, chapter 3.

Read 1 Tim 3:1-3

1. What ambition did Paul commend? vs 1
2. Read 2 Cor 5:9. When is ambition good?
3. What qualities should an overseer have? vs 2,3

The Greek word for overseer is "episkope" which also means bishop, elder and pastor, in other words, a church leader

4. Read 1 Pet 5:1-3. What are the duties of a church leader?
5. Using a dictionary, define reproach. What does it mean to be above reproach? See also 1 Thess 5:22

Day 2 Read 1 Tim 3:4-7

1. According to verse 4, an overseer should manage his house well. Read Deut 6:5-9. What are some keys to managing a house well? (See also Prov 7:1-3)
2. How would managing a house well prepare an overseer to care for the church? Write down your thoughts.
3. Define conceited. What is its opposite?

4. Paul warns that an overseer should not be a new convert. Why? See also Prov. 16:18.

5. Why is it important that an overseer have a good reputation outside the church? See also Matt 5:16 and 1 Pet 2:12.

Day 3 Read 1 Tim 3:8-13

1. The word deacon also means servant. Read Matt 20:26-28. What does Jesus teach about servants?

2. The qualities of a deacon are listed in verses 8-13. How do these compare to the qualities of an overseer or elder? What are some similarities? What are some differences?

3. Who does Paul address in verse 11. What does he call them to?

4. What is the one sinful behavior Paul points out in verse 11. Why is this so damaging?

5. Read Phil 4:8. What can help us avoid being a malicious gossip?

Day 4 Read 1 Tim 3:14-16

1. What did Paul hope to do? vs 14

2. Why did Paul write this letter? vs 14, 15

3. How does Paul describe the church in verse 15. In light of this, what is our responsibility as Christians?

4. Write out the confession of the church from verse 16 in your own words.

Day 5 *Personal Application*

Our Bible study is not over until we apply what we have learned to our everyday lives. And lest we underestimate the value of this last step, remember that in God's eyes it is the person who does not just know His Word, but also obeys His Word that truly loves Him (see John 14:21).

1. What part of the lesson stood out most to you and why?

2. What area of your life has been most affected by what you've learned this week?

3. After praying to God for conviction and insight, what concrete changes do you feel you should make this week?

4. What exactly will you do differently this week than last week—get specific and be realistic!

5. Is there someone you know who needs to hear the truths you have learned this week? Will you pray and ask the Lord for boldness and love to share it with that individual?

Be prepared to share the memory verse with your group.