

1 Timothy 3

Intro:

- What is Paul's reason for writing to Timothy?
 - *Paul wants to instruct Timothy on how the "household" of God should be conducted (1 Timothy 3:14-15).*

Read 1 Timothy 3:1-13

- What does it mean to be above reproach? Why is this important for someone in church leadership?
- What are some practical examples of what it means to live above reproach?
- Hypothetically, if you were involved in church leadership, is there anything in your life that would appear questionable to others? Explain.
- What effect would an overseer have in the church if they were not of the criteria mentioned in verses 2-3?
- Why do you think it is important for people in church leadership to have a good reputation with outsiders?
- Which characteristics stand out the most to you in this passage? Why?
- What other qualification would you personally add to someone in church leadership? Explain.
- Do you think that these characteristics should be true for all Christians or only for those in leadership? Explain.
- How can someone maintain a life that keeps them integrous?

Read 1 Timothy 3:14-16

- What does it mean that the Church is the pillar and foundation of truth?
- Verse 16 is likely one of the first hymns of the early Church. What do each of the lines mean?
- Paul states that the source by which all godliness springs is contained within the following hymn. Why is the content of the hymn the source of all godly living?

Application:

- Take some time to reflect. Write down areas that the Lord is revealing where you may not be living above reproach. Reflect on these areas and ask "Why is this something to yield to God?" End with repentance as the Lord prompts.