

**Study Questions for the October 25, 2020 Sermon:
“Elder/Pastors - Who should be an Undershepherd?”
1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9, 1 Peter 5:1-4**

1. 1 Timothy 3:3 states that overseers should be “...not a lover of money.” Pastor Paul said that characteristic is often included in Biblical descriptions of good church leaders. Yet 1 Timothy 5:17 says: “Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor...” and the context here appears to be financial remuneration. Is the Apostle Paul contradicting himself, first saying that overseers should not love money, then directing the congregation to pay overseers well?
2. Titus 1:5 states “...appoint elders in every town...” Pastor Paul said that at this point in Christian history there would only have been one church per town. Now there are many churches per town; partly because cities are bigger, but mostly because of doctrinal, worship style, and leadership structure differences among denominations. If you believe that there is no suggestion in the New Testament that denominations are part of God's plan for his church:
 - a. Are denominations a necessary evil?
 - b. Can something that is evil be necessary?
3. 1 Timothy 3: 4 & 5 states this about overseers: “He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church?” Does this mean that a Pastor with a rebellious, wayward child should not lead a congregation?
4. Would the overseer requirement in 1 Timothy 3:2 “husband of one wife” disqualify:
 - a. Divorced men?
 - b. Men with only one child (“children” is plural.)?
 - c. Single men?
 - d. Widowed men who remarried?
 - e. Polygamous men?

5. Should we understand the “husband of one wife” criteria to mean that women may not be overseers?

6. 1 Timothy 3:3 says that pastors should not be “quarrelsome”. Was the Apostle Paul being quarrelsome when he confronted Peter about capitulating to the Judaizers?