

# Leading The Church Forward

## Leader's Guide for Week Three

### Who Are Elders?

1Tim 3:1-7; 1 Pet 5:1-4; Titus 1:5-9

*Note: Please read the Scripture passages and watch the video on your own first and try to answer the questions. This will help you fine-tune things and draw good answers out of the group when you view it again with them.*

#### Open with Prayer

*Note: if your group would benefit from an icebreaker-type question consider using question 5 as a start.*

#### Video

#### Questions

1. Other than the fact that the Bible describes churches as having a plurality of elders, what are some reasons why having more than one elder or pastor is helpful for a church?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. 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?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Would the overseer requirement in 1 Timothy 3:2 "husband of one wife" disqualify:
  - a. Divorced men? (not if the divorce was Biblically warranted)
  - b. Men with only one child ("children" is plural.)? (No but the common expectation was that people had more than one child)
  - c. Single men? (Not if they are living in faithfulness to the possibility of a spouse in the future see 1Cor 7 for an interesting argument that Paul preferred singleness to marriage. Note neither Paul or Jesus married)
  - d. Widowed men who remarried? (No. 1Cor 7:39)
  - e. Polygamous men? (yes)

- f. Women? (yes as there are no exceptions given, but more on that when we discuss deacons)
  
- 4. 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?
  
- 5. Describe some of the good characteristics of pastors you have had. How are good elders/pastors a blessing to a church?

**Q&A -**

*Note: (Please write down the questions people ask so that the leadership can get a feel for what people are wondering about and get them to Pastor Paul. If there are any you are unsure how to answer, he can also help with those.)*