

The apostle Paul left Titus on the island of Crete to establish a witness for Jesus Christ. Titus was to appoint leaders for the growing band of believers. Except for preaching the gospel, nothing Titus did for the Christians on Crete was more important than finding them the right leadership.

Church leaders are to meet the standards set forth in Titus 1:6-9 and to guide others to greater maturity in their relationship with Christ. And followers must lovingly hold their spiritual leaders accountable to those goals.

Whether you're leading or following, know where you're going. Don't march into a dead end. --

*Before you follow a leader,
Check his beliefs, and pray;
Be sure he's following Jesus,
And that he knows the way. --Hess*

**The only leader worth following
is the leader who is following Christ.**



Central Mountains Baptist Church

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Marching Into A Dead End

A bishop must be blameless, as a steward of God. --Titus 1:7

Stuart Briscoe writes about a funeral for a returned serviceman in which the man's military mates had a role in the memorial service. The friends requested that the pastor lead them to the casket for a moment of silence. They would then follow the pastor out a side door.

The plan was carried out with military precision--until the pastor marched them into a broom closet. The soldiers had to make a disorganised retreat.

That pastor made an honest mistake, but it illustrates that leaders must know where they are going. As go the leaders, so go the followers.





church restoration

godly leadership III (what to look for in a new pastor)

The criteria for pastoral office listed in Titus 1:6-9 can be considered under 4 headings. So then we look at 4 sets of criteria for eldership:

- 1. **Externals**, verses 5, 7, 6
- 2. **Family**, verses 6, 8
- 3. **Service**, verses 7, 9

4. Personal,

The personal criteria for pastoral office can be divided into three groups:

A. Spirit _____, verses 5-9

◆ Self _____,

(2 Peter 2:9-11) "then the Lord knows how to ... reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, {10} and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries, {11} whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord."

(2 Corinthians 11:20-21) "For you put up with it if one brings you into bondage, if one devours you, if one takes from you, if one exalts himself, if one strikes you on the face. {21} To our shame, I say that we were too weak for that! But in whatever anyone is bold; I speak foolishly; I am bold also."

(Matthew 20:25-26) "But Jesus called them to Himself and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. {26} "Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant."

◆ Self _____,

(1 Corinthians 7:9) "but if they cannot exercise self-control, let them marry. ..."

(1 Corinthians 9:25) "And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown."

(Galatians 5:22-23) "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, {23} gentleness, self-control. ..."

(2 Peter 1:5-6) "But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, {6} to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness,"

(Ephesians 5:18) "And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,"



Samuel Rutherford

B. Spiritually _____, verse 7

◆ P _____,

(2 Timothy 2:24) "And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient,"

(James 1:20) "for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

◆ G _____,

(Ephesians 4:31-32) "Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. {32} And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you."



C. _____, verses 7-8

◆ G _____, verse 7

◆ G _____, verse 8

(Romans 12:9) "Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good."

(1 Thessalonians 5:21) "Test all things; hold fast what is good."

◆ W _____, verse 8

◆ J _____, verse 8

◆ H _____, verse 8

(Romans 12:1) "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service."



The Good Shepherd