



Small Group Questions - Week of Sunday November 10, 2024

1 Timothy 3:1-7

Get to know me:

1. What do you think is the most important thing in life, and why?

Into the Bible:

Read 1 Timothy 3:1-7

1. Why do you think that the Apostle Paul says that the office of an overseer is a noble position?

2. There are varying roles that describe this office, how would you describe the differences and similarities? (Overseer, Elder, Bishop, Pastor (Shepherd))

3. What does the title "overseer" indicate to you about the role this person serves within the church?

4. What does the title "pastor" or "shepherd" indicate to you about the role this person serves within the church?

5. What does the title "elder or bishop" indicate to you about the the role this person serves within the church?

6. Read **Ephesians 4:7-16**. What does this communicate to us about the role of “pastor/teacher”? Is this role available for anyone and everyone?

7. Read **1 Peter 5:4**. Who is the “Chief Shepherd” that Peter is speaking of? Read **John 10:11**. What does this fourth “I AM” statement proclaim? What does this communicate to us about God’s character?

8. If Jesus is the Chief Shepherd, what role do men hold when they serve as shepherd/pastors within the local church?

9. Of the qualities and qualifications listed within **Vs. 2-7**, which quality do you feel is the most important and which quality seems least important and why?

10. What should you do if you are attending a church and the pastor and leaders simply do not embody these biblical characteristics for an overseer? (Hint: *Matthew 18:15-20 and 1 Timothy 5:17-25*)

11. Why do you suppose those serving as spiritual overseers in various capacities (pastors, elders, ministry leaders, etc.) experience more attacks from the enemy? How can overseers prepare for the attacks? (See *Ephesians 6*)

Application:

1. While the text addresses those serving as overseers, in what ways can you use this list to develop godly character within your own life?
2. Which quality can you seek to be intentional about growing in?
3. In what ways can you encourage the spiritual oversight in your life?
4. How can you develop a servant’s heart and model your life after Jesus’ example?

Prayer Requests:

1. For unity in our nation post election.
2. Health and healing of those with physical infirmities.
3. Stanton Healthcare and their mission to provide pro-life services for women with unexpected pregnancies.
4. Church Family: Kevin and Yolanda O’Leary