

DISCUSSION NOTES

OCTOBER 20, 2019

Start by praying and asking for God's help as you seek to grow as authentic followers of Jesus.

GETTING STARTED

- Someone has said, "As go the leaders, so goes the church." Do you agree? Why or why not?

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

- Read 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and make 7-10 observations on these verses. What stands out? What seems most important? Who is present? What commands are given? What do we learn about God?
- Compare and contrast the two lists of qualifications. What is similar? What is different?
- Read Acts 6:1:6. What is the situation the church is facing? If you insert yourself into that situation, what emotions do you think you would have experienced (in verse 1)?

How did the twelve apostles handle the situation? What was their strategy? What priorities guided their approach?

Acts 6:5 says this pleased the whole gathering. Would you have been pleased with this approach? Why or why not?

- Read Titus 1:5-9. This list is similar to the list for overseers in 1 Timothy 3. Why do you think these two lists focus so much on character and relational health rather than skills to master and tasks to perform?
- In your own words, how would you describe the two roles we've discussed in this study?

LIVING IT OUT

- When you look at the list of qualifications for overseers below, name one or two that catch your attention in this season of your life. Why do you think these seem important for both the health of a believer and the health of a church?

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|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| above reproach | not a drunkard |
| husband of one wife | not violent but gentle |
| sober-minded | not quarrelsome |
| self-controlled | not a lover of money |
| respectable | manage his own household well |
| hospitable | not be a recent convert |

able to teach

must be well thought of by outsiders

8. Before this study, have you ever considered what the Bible says about the leadership of a local church? Does anything in this study seem remarkable, surprising or difficult? Why or why not?
9. For you personally, what seems encouraging in this study of God's design for leadership in the church?
10. Close out your time by investing 10-15 minutes praying for the pastors and staff of our church, our future elders and deacons, and the health of our church family.