

May 10, 2017

## What is a good pastor?

### 1. A good pastor is committed to hard work.

for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance. For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe. Command and teach these things. 1 Timothy 4:8–11 (ESV)

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil. 2 Corinthians 5:10 (ESV)

Him (Jesus) we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me. Colossians 1:28–29 (ESV)

#### Is Paul teaching universalism?

...when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might, 2 Thessalonians 1:7b–9 (ESV)

so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. Matthew 5:45 (ESV)

### 2. A good pastor pursues godly character.

Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. 1 Timothy 4:12 (ESV)

#### Speech

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. Ephesians 4:29 (ESV)

#### Conduct

Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. James 3:13 (ESV)

#### Love

Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 (ESV)

#### Faith

Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful. 1 Corinthians 4:2 (ESV)

#### Purity

Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife,.. 1 Timothy 3:2 (ESV)

### 3. A good pastor teaches from the Bible.

Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching. 1 Timothy 4:13 (ESV)

For from ancient generations Moses has had in every city those who proclaim him, for he is read every Sabbath in the synagogues. Acts 15:21 (ESV)

I put you under oath before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers. 1 Thessalonians 5:27 (ESV)

**4. A good pastor sees the church as a calling and a privilege, not a job.**

*Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you. 1 Timothy 4:14 (ESV)*

**5. A good pastor is committed to continual improvement.**

*Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress. 1 Timothy 4:15 (ESV)*

**6. A good pastor watches his life for mission drift.**

*Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers. 1 Timothy 4:16 (ESV)*

*For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you? 1 Thessalonians 2:19 (ESV)*

**Conclusion**

1. A good pastor is committed to hard work.
2. A good pastor pursues a godly lifestyle.
3. A good pastor teaches from the Bible.
4. A good pastor sees the church as a calling and a privilege, not a job.
5. A good pastor is committed to continual improvement.
6. A good pastor watches his life for mission drift.



**1 Timothy 4:8-16**  
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