

**CONNECTION QUESTION**

Everyone has stories of church leaders gone bad. Share a story that left you particularly frustrated.

REVIEW

Paul talks about both desiring and aspiring to be a church leader (1 Timothy 3:1.) What is the difference between those terms and why did he use both?

What is the wrong reason to seek a position of church leadership? What does it look like in a church leader's life when he leads for the wrong reason?

Paul talks about the nature of a church leader's relationship with women. How does Paul describe a church leader's relationship with women? What kind of men does that exclude? What kind of men does that not exclude?

Pastor Kurt gave three suggestions to help men (and women) maintain purity with the opposite sex. As a group, what other suggestions do you have for men (and women) to maintain purity in this area?

Paul emphasizes the essential quality of self-discipline in our personal life before we can provide leadership in church life. What areas of your personal life did you feel convicted to get in order? What is your plan to take steps to make it happen?

Paul underscores the importance of hospitality for a church leader. What is the difference between hospitality and fellowship? What plans can you make to be a more hospitable person or family? How does this change what you do with new people at church and after church?

**FURTHER STUDY**

Paul emphasized the importance of a church leader remaining calm under pressure and staying gentle, not becoming violent. What are some of the unique pressures a church leader faces? From your knowledge of the Bible, what should a church leader do to remain calm under those pressures?

Read Titus 1:5-9. What qualities for elders does Paul add to the list he gives to Titus?

Read Acts 20:17-38. Paul speaks to the elders in Ephesus for the last time. How important was it for him to lead by the example of his life? What does this teach us about the importance of leading by our life for church leaders today?

How can existing church leaders better identify and train young men for future church leadership?

In what ways is a church leader different from a secular leader or manager? How can existing church leaders discern if someone with a charismatic personality and worldly success is qualified to pursue eldership?

Read Hebrews 13:17. What can members of a local church do to make their leaders' task easier?