

# APPOINTING ELDERS

July 9, 2017

Upper West Manhattan  
Church of Christ

# LOOKING FOR MEN...

1....According to God's standard and instruction.

- Not what we think, but what God has said
- Is the burden on the side of having an eldership... or on the side of not putting in unqualified men?

Pressure to have  
elders in place

We must appoint  
godly, qualified Elders

Pressure to not  
wrongly appoint



# LOOKING FOR MEN...

2....Above reproach.

- “No serious accusation can be brought against them”
- This seems to be the organizing principle in the qualification lists.

# Titus 1:5-9

<sup>5</sup>This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might set right what was lacking and appoint Elders in each town (as I directed you):

<sup>6</sup>if someone is blameless,

a one-woman man,

having children who are faithful and not with a reputation of living recklessly or being insubordinate.

<sup>7</sup>For an overseer, as God's steward, must be blameless, not stubborn, not quick tempered, not a drunkard, not a bully, not greedy for money,

<sup>8</sup>but loving strangers, loving what is good, self-controlled, righteous, devout, disciplined,

<sup>9</sup>holding fast to the faithful word according to what was taught, so that he might be able to both encourage with healthy teaching and also expose those who contradict.

# 1 Timothy 3:1-7

<sup>1</sup>This is a faithful saying: if anyone aspires to the office of an overseer, it is a good work he wants.

<sup>2</sup>Therefore, an overseer must be above reproach,  
a one-woman man;

temperate, self-controlled, respectable, loving strangers, able to teach,

<sup>3</sup>not a drunkard, not a bully, but gentle, peaceable, free from the love of money,

<sup>4</sup>ruling his own house well, with his children in obedience with all reverence (<sup>5</sup>for if someone does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the house of God?)

<sup>6</sup>and not a new convert, so that he does not become puffed up and fall into the condemnation of the devil.

<sup>7</sup>For an overseer must also have a good testimony from outsiders, so that he does not fall into disgrace and the snare of the devil.

# LOOKING FOR MEN...

2....Above reproach.

- “No serious accusation can be brought against them”
- This seems to be the organizing principle in the qualification lists.
- If we imagine an accusation being brought forward, how do we react?

# LOOKING FOR MEN...

3....to be Family Leaders.

- Elders over Israel: City, Tribe, Nation
- Fathers of the people (Joshua 24:15)
- Ideally, we are selecting the kind of person you WANT to go to when you have problems.

# LOOKING FOR MEN...

4....who have proven themselves in their family.

- Family is testing ground and training ground.
- Children are often the most accurate showcase of who someone really is.  
(1 Tim 5:24-25)
- We may wish a guy handled things differently (matters of judgment)...  
but how did his children turn out?



**Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you. (Hebrews 13:17, ESV)**

**Now I urge you, brothers — you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints — be subject to such as these, and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have made up for your absence, for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such people. (1 Corinthians 16:15-18)**

**Are you willing to follow godly leaders?**

- Lets give a hypothetical...

**Right now, what are the things you know you can do to step up *without having an elder to tell you and make you?***