

1 Timothy

Lesson 4 — Leadership (3.1-7)

The Holy Spirit's second *trustworthy statement* leads this new section. Like any organization, the local church needs leadership. God's design for the leadership of the local church involves qualified men exercising oversight of the church — men who display both internal and external qualities of godliness. These men are uniquely charged with the "care of the church of God" (3.5).

- 1) The same word "overseer" is used in Acts 20.28 and Titus 1.7. Look at those contexts and find another term used synonymously for an "overseer".
A) Acts 20.17-31 _____; Titus 1.5-11 _____
- 2) Paul is found of the word "overseer" — what does that word mean?
A) _____
- 3) What is the first quality listed for a prospective overseer?
A) _____
- 4) What must an overseer be prepared to do (3.1)?
A) _____
- 5) Why is an overseer's home-life important and subject to consideration?
A) _____

THOUGHT QUESTIONS:

- 1) The Greek of 3.1 does not contain a specific reference to males. Is there something in the first seven verses to indicate that the role of elders is restricted to a particular sex?
- 2) What is required of an overseer that is not required of other Christians?
- 3) Does the word "children" demand a plurality of offspring?
- 4) Is it proper to view 1 Timothy 3.1-7 as an exhaustive checklist?