

1 TIMOTHY 3:1-7

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Here are some questions and thoughts to help guide discussion:

1. What stood out to you from this Sunday's sermon? Was there anything that was new to you, or anything that surprised you?
2. On Sunday, we were challenged to care, in a proper sense, about what others think about us. What did you think as you heard that? How much do you care about what others think about you? How could you use your reputation to help the spread of the gospel?
3. Why do you think Paul only included one skills-based qualification in his lengthy list? Does this mean that a leader doesn't need to be competent at leading? Or is there more to being an overseer than what's listed here?
4. We heard on Sunday that this list should apply to all believers—even those who don't aspire to the office of overseer. Which area(s) in this list are a struggle for you? What can you do to ensure that you are increasingly fulfilling these requirements? How could doing this help the church to be healthy and the gospel to spread?
5. The sermon on Sunday suggested that the presence of this list of qualifications implies that there will be evaluation. How should the church go about evaluating men who aspire to the office of overseer? Who should be doing the evaluating?
6. There are likely several people who are part of EBC who are "aspiring to the office of overseer." How can we encourage them on their journey to this office?