



Group Discussion and Application

1. List some of the evidences of spiritual maturity.
2. How should a man be tested before being placed in church office?
3. How does the church differ from a business organization? What difference does this make in the way a church selects its office holders and conducts its business?
4. What criteria does the world use for selecting leaders in industry, business, politics, etc.? How do these differ from the church's criteria?
5. What happens if churches use the wrong criteria and select the wrong leaders?
6. What can the church do to prepare/train future elders and deacons?
7. Suggest some specific ways a congregation can minister to its leaders.
8. Explain the difference between elders and deacons. If their functions are different, why are so many of the qualifications similar?
9. Peter portrays the role of an elder as that of a shepherd (1Pet 5:1). What is involved in the work of shepherding God's flock?



Personal Reflection and Response

1. How will you encourage your church officials? Be specific.
2. Commit to pray daily for those God has placed in office in our church.
3. Who do you perceive to be qualified as potential elders and deacons for our congregation?



Family Homework

1. What are some of the ways elders and deacons have ministered to you and your family over the years?
2. How might your family encourage those who hold office in our church?
3. Pray specifically for each of the leaders of our congregation.



Church Classifieds (part 2)

1 Timothy 3:1-13

What does God require of those who hold office in the church?

1	Earnest Aspiration
2	Right Motivation
3	Clear Reputation
4	Pervasive Self-Discipline

5 Exemplary _____

6 Proven _____

7 Edifying _____

The Result Honorable _____