

The Gospel's Effect On Overseers

1 Timothy 3:1-7

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Thesis: The Gospel has an effect on the way we view what an overseer is and does.

Who is an overseer and what do they do?

3 main words used in the New Testament to describe one office

1. Prebuteros - Elder: 1 Tim. 5:19
2. Episkopos - Overseer: 1 Tim. 3:1-2
3. Poimen - Shepherd (Pastor): 1 Peter 5:2

They are devoted to preaching, prayer, and ministry of the word. (Acts 6:1-4)

Equip the saints. (Eph. 4:11-14)

Shepherd the flock. (1 Peter 5:1-3, John 21:16, Acts 20:28-29)

Works with a team of other qualified overseers (James 5:14, Acts 14:23)

How does someone become an overseer (vs. 1-7)?

They must first have a God-given call and desire (vs. 1).

Then the church evaluates them in two main areas
(vs. 2-7, Titus 1:6-9, 1 Peter 5:1-3)

His moral and spiritual character:

1. Above reproach
2. One woman man
3. Sober minded
4. Self-controlled
5. Respectable
6. Hospitable
7. Not a drunkard
8. Not violent
9. Gentle
10. Not quarrelsome
11. Not a lover of money
12. Not a new covert
13. Thought well of by outsiders

His abilities:

1. Manage his house hold well
2. Provide an example of Christian living
3. Be able to teach and defend the faith

What should I do with this information?

Ask if God is calling you to be an overseer.

Disciple men in these qualities.

Be prepared to evaluate new elders.