

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Open your group with a prayer. Use this sheet as a guide; select the points you want to discuss.

GETTING STARTED

1. Can you name the 6 FCC elders? How do they serve the church?

DIGGING DEEPER

2. Read 1 Timothy 3:1-7.
3. Which of the qualifications stand out to you? Why?
4. In what way are these qualifications to be exhibited by all Christians?
5. Why can "above reproach" be considered the summary heading for this list?
6. Why is a man's family life indicative of how he would serve as an elder (v.5)?
7. What dangers might there be in making a new believer an elder (v.6)?
8. What is the "devil's trap" in 1Tim 3:7?
9. Read 1 Peter 5:1-4. What similarities exist with 1 Tim 3:1-7? What are some dangers/temptations for elders?

10. Review Acts 20:28. What reason is stated here for why God gave elders to the church? How would this help Timothy in Ephesus? (see 1 Tim 1:4)
11. Read 1 Peter 2:24-25. Why is it important to remember that Jesus is the Chief Shepherd?

LIVING IT OUT

12. Read Hebrews 13:17. How can your small group make this verse a reality?
13. How might any Christian use this list for themselves?
14. Which characteristic is one your group could pray about for you?
15. Take time to pray for these characteristics for your elders.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

"If anyone sets his heart on being an overseer, he desires a noble task."

-1 Timothy 3:1 NIV

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