

*Edgemont Bible Church*  
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*1 Timothy 3:4-7*

July 30, 2016

Intro: Integrity may be desirable in the secular world, but its absence is fatal to spiritual leadership. The goal of leadership is influence, influence to achieve objectives. It is a direct result of teaching and example. "A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher - Lu 6:40. Teaching is important, example drives the lesson home. The OT shows this in various verses - Lev 18:3; Deut. 18:9; Pro 22:24-25; 29:12; Hos 4:9. The NT encourages us to follow godly examples - 1 Th 1:6; Phil 4:9. Paul tells Timothy and Titus to be godly examples - 1 Tim 4:12; Tit 2:7. Integrity is living what you teach and preach.

X. Qualities of a Godly Leader - Part 2 (Home Life, Spiritual Maturity, Public Reputation)

A. The Home-Life of a Godly Leader - vs 4-5

1. one who rules his own house well,

a. rules - presides or has authority over

b. It is God's will for men to be leaders both in the Church and in the home

c. well - **kalos** - well (usually morally):--(in a) good (place), honestly, + recover, (full) well. Intrinsically good and visibly good

d. Own house - includes all persons and things for which he has responsibility (stewardship)

e. having his children

i. not meant to disqualify men without children

ii. in submission with all reverence

- submission - **hupotage** - under control. Military term - to line up in rank under, subordination:--subjection.

- reverence includes courtesy, humility, and competence

- the family is ordered, disciplined, and not rebellious

- not accused of dissipation or insubordination - Tit 1:6

- faithful children—the task of leading others to Christ is shown in reaching his own

iii. 4 keys to having children who bring honor to their parents

- The father must exercise the authority that makes it advisable for children to obey - disobedience should be met with immediate negative consequences

- The father must have enough wisdom to make it natural and

reasonable for children to obey - children should not challenge the father's authority, but should understand why they are expected to behave in a certain way

- A father should show love that makes it a delight to obey

- A father must be able to convince his children of the urgency, priority, and privilege of salvation and obedience to the word of God

2. (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?);

a. "the church of God" is talking about the local assembly

b. "take care of"

i. **epimeleomai** - to care for (physically or otherwise), take care of.

ii. Use in the parable of the Good Samaritan - Lk 10:34-35

c. The testing ground for a Pastor is in his own home

## B. The Spiritual Maturity of a Godly Leader - vs 6

1. not a novice,

a. **neophutos** - newly planted, i.e. (figuratively) a young convert ("neophyte")--novice.

b. used only here in the NT

2. lest being puffed up with pride

a. **tuphoō** - to envelop with smoke, to inflate with self-conceit--high-minded, be lifted up with pride, be proud.

b. he fall into the same condemnation as the devil.

i. not being condemned by the devil - he is never portrayed as the judge

ii. Genitive case, falls into the same judgement by God on Satan

- the five "I wills" - Isa 14:12-14

- Therefore I cast you as a profane thing Out of the mountain of God - Ezek 28:11-19

## C. The Public Reputation of a Godly Leader - vs 7

1. Moreover

a. Already talked about moral life, home life, spiritual life

b. Now his reputation - he must have a good testimony

i. **marturia** - evidence given (judicially):--record, report, testimony, witness.

ii. The root of our word Martyr

c. among those who are outside,

i. A man chosen to lead his church must maintain a reputation in the community for righteousness, moral character, love, kindness, generosity, and goodness

ii. They may not agree with his theology, but must recognize him as a man of impeccable reputation - otherwise, how will he reach them

iii. Ro 2:23-24 You who make your boast in the law, do you dishonor God through breaking the law? For "the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you,"

iv. This is the Biblical expectation of every believer

- Php 2:15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

- Col 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time.

- 1Pe 2:12 having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.

2. lest he fall

a. into reproach - **oneidismos** - contumely:--reproach.

b. and the snare of the devil

i. **pagis** - a trap , a trick or temptation:--snare.

ii. A snare set up by the devil

c. leaders face many temptations from the very nature of their position

i. Discouragement

- living up to personal high standards

- people who fail to grow or respond or fall away

ii. Indifference

- outgrowth of the first one

- distancing themselves for protection

iii. Busy Laziness

- take the path of least resistance and do what they want to do instead of what they need to do
- appear busy, really lazy b/c not doing what needs to be done

iv. Compromise

- avoid saying what needs to be said
- fear of man

v. those common to every Christian - need the armor of God