

The Gospel Made Visible

Proclamation Life Groups; Week of Sunday, May 29, 2016; Steve Thiel

The biblical model of church leadership is necessary for the household of God, the church, to uphold the truth of the gospel and to display the glory of Christ in its worship and its witness.

I. Responsibilities and Qualifications of Elders – Read 1 Timothy 3:1-8

- A. What elder qualifications stand out to you and why do you think they're so important?

- B. As you think of Acts 20:25-30 and the context of 1 Timothy, why are godly leaders needed?

- C. What does it look like for the elders to shepherd the church? (1 Peter 5:1-4, Hebrews 13:17)

- D. How does Acts 14:19-23 help us understand the number of elders to have in a church? What do you think are some of the benefits to having a plurality of elders?

II. Responsibilities and Qualifications of Deacons – Read 1 Timothy 3:8-13

- A. What similarities and differences do you notice between the elder and deacon qualifications?

- B. How would you describe the different roles and responsibilities of church leaders? (Acts 6:1-7)

- C. What church leader has encouraged you the most in your spiritual journey and why?

- D. Have you ever been hurt by a church leader? If so, how has that affected your view on leaders?

III. The Gospel Made Visible in the Family of Faith – Read 1 Timothy 3:14-16

- A. What do you think it looks like for the church to interact as the “household of God”?

- B. How does the church function as the “pillar and buttress of the truth”?

- C. Do you think a guest in our church would be convinced that God is in this place? Why?

- D. What do you think it means to keep the good news of Jesus Christ central in a church?