

GODLINESS: WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE

1 Timothy 3:1-7

# Radically Ordinary

# 1 Timothy 3:1-7

Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task. <sup>2</sup> Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, <sup>3</sup> not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. <sup>4</sup> He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey

# 1 Timothy 3:1-7

him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect. <sup>5</sup> (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) <sup>6</sup> He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. <sup>7</sup> He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

# Positive Characteristics

1. Husband of one Wife
2. Manages his family well
3. Children obey with respect
4. Temperate
5. Self-controlled
6. Respectable
7. Hospitable
8. Able to teach (life-long learner)

# The importance of home-life

# Husband of but one wife

- Does this preclude single men?
- Does this exclude individuals who have experienced the trauma of previous failure?
- What about a widower who has remarried?
- What is being taught:
  - Speaks to the vitality and fidelity of a leaders relationship with their spouse
  - . . . a one woman kind of man.

# Manages his family well

- A manager is not a king, he is accountable to another for the exercise of a trust
- Management does not mean that he does it all himself.
- Management does mean that he is responsible for all that happens in his home and in the life of his family.

# Obedience and Respect

- The pursuit of balance
- Obedience is one objective
  - Clarity
  - Consistency
  - Accountability
- Respect provides appropriate balance
  - Fear is not envisioned as the motivation for obedience
  - Respect requires respectability



# Temperate & Self-controlled

- Temperate

“One who always has a halter on himself.” Louw Nida

<sup>5</sup> But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry. 2 Timothy 4:5

- Self-controlled

Sensible, moderate

To allow one's mind to control one's emotions and responses.

# Respectable & Hospitable

- Respectable

pertaining to being modest in the sense of moderate and well ordered.

Louw & Nida

- Hospitable

- The role of hospitality in NT times
- The distinction between hospitality and entertaining

# Able to teach

- We are all teachers
- We need to recognize the responsibility that we possess as teachers, especially when it comes to spiritual matters.
- To excel as teachers we need to remain students ourselves.
- The world becomes a very small place when there are no new questions and no vistas to be explored.

# Able to teach

- Gene Getz was right when he said that we could, with due reason, paraphrase this standard as, “a leader must remain teachable as well as being able to teach.”
- The challenge is to be a life-long learner.

# So What

- What type of person do you want to be when you grow up?
- How do you respond to the standards that Paul has articulated?
- Is there an area where you would like to make progress in this year?