

1. What are Paul's main concerns as he teaches concerning Godly church leadership?
2. How are these concerns relevant to the church in Ephesus? How might these be relevant to Creekside in Merced?
3. Why was Paul so concerned about men "stepping it up" as Godly leaders? How is this a partnership with women? What does this say about the heart of both men and women before God?
4. Read 1 Peter 5:1-4 as an example. How does Peter describe the scope and ministry of an Overseer?

Qualifications For Overseers 3:1-7

1. As you consider the qualifications of an Overseer think about and discuss: 1) The meaning of each qualification; 2) Which of these resonate with you personally (maybe as an essential qualification to look for, or maybe as an area for growth in your own life).
2. Ephesians 4:11-16 gives an overview of what healthy church leadership can mean for a congregation.
 - What will be the result in our lives? (4:12a,13)
 - What is the example of the growth for us as individuals? (4:14,15)
 - What is the example of this growth as the corporate church? (4:16)
3. How do you think our relationship and witness together would change if individually and as a congregation we experienced this quality of spiritual growth?

Qualifications For Deacons 3:8-13

1. Read Acts 6:1-7. What is the ministry of a Deacon? Why is this ministry essential for the church to be healthy?
2. As you consider the qualifications of a Deacon think about and discuss: 1) The meaning of each qualification; 2) Which of these resonate with you personally (maybe as an essential qualification to look for, or maybe as an area for growth in your own life).

Processing all that...

1. What promises are made to those who serve in Church leadership? (3:1,13)
2. Consider again the importance of "aspiring" and "desiring" (3:1). These days what does "aspiring" and "desiring" look like for you in your relationship with Jesus?

Extra Credit:

1. Considering the above study, what do you think should be the focus of Godly leadership?
2. What then is the role of a Godly leader in the Church? Do we expect this of our leaders? Consider the expectations which are written in our Church Bylaws.* Consider what we hold our leaders accountable for. Consider what our leadership spends the majority of its time focused on. Are these expectations consistent?
3. What role does each member of the congregation have in leadership? What commitment/partnership with leadership is necessary on our parts if we are to grow healthy as the Body of Christ in Merced?

* <http://www.efcmerced.org/CreeksideBylawsNov13.pdf>
Article III & Article IV, section 2, A & C