



The Offices of the Church
“Entrusted to You” Series
1 Timothy 3:1, p. 992
March 7, 2021
Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this sermon we learn about the two offices of the church and the importance of church leadership.

The Text: 1 Timothy 3:1

¹ The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task.

- 1) The Bible describes the “ministers” of the church in three ways.
 - a) *The church serves as ministers in a corporate sense – priests among the nations.*
 - b) *The church serves as ministers in an individual sense – the priesthood of all believers.*
 - c) *The church serves as ministers in a restricted sense – the office of pastor-elder.*

- 2) The ministry of a local church is accomplished through two “offices” – Pastor-Elder and Deacon.
 - a) *The office of “pastor-elder” attends to the spiritual needs of the church – the soul.*
 - b) *The office of “deacon” attends to the physical needs of the church – the body.*

- 3) The Church needs skilled and qualified shepherds, and it is a good thing for a person to desire.

Response: If you are a Christian, you are a minister in your local church!

Sunday Text Questions for 1 Timothy 3:1 (“Entrusted to You” Series)

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- 1) Starter Question: What comes to mind when you think of a “minister” in a church, and is it unbiblical to professionalize the term too much?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) This is the second of five “trustworthy” sayings in the pastoral letters. What sayings exist in our culture or in the church today that memorialize important truths?
- 4) What does it mean to “aspire” to something?
- 5) How would you define or explain “the office of overseer” (aka, the office of “pastor-elder”)?
- 6) Why is this office in the church called “a noble task?”
- 7) Why might God describe that office or role in the church in such lofty terms when other roles are not even mentioned?
- 8) If God makes the office of pastor-elder a big deal, how should a Christian in a local church think about and engage with the office in their church?
- 9) Read Ephesians 4:11-12. How is the office of pastor-elder designed to prepare and empower all Christians to be “ministers” in the church?
- 10) If you are a Christian, how are you (or should you be) serving and “ministering” in your local church?

Further study this week: Passages on the office of the pastor-elder: Acts 6:1-6 (Mon); Acts 20:28 (Tues); James 3:1 (Wed); 1 Peter 5:1-5 (Thurs); Hebrews 13:17 (Fri).