

A photograph of four men of diverse backgrounds sitting outdoors in front of a green hedge. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. Each man is holding an open Bible. The man on the far left is an older Black man in a light blue button-down shirt. The man next to him is a younger white man with blonde hair in a brown leather jacket. The man in the back is a Black man in a white button-down shirt. The man on the far right is a younger white man in a light blue long-sleeved shirt. The text 'How to Choose The Elders' is overlaid on the image in yellow and white. The text '1 Timothy 3:2-7' is in the bottom right corner in white.

How to Choose The Elders

1 Timothy 3:2-7

Introduction

- **Name several different processes used by churches to select elders.**

- **According to Acts 6:1- 6, how did the early church select the seven men? These men were the first deacons in the early church.**

The Holy Spirit Prepares a Man.

- **According to Acts 20:28, how does a man become an elder? What is the role of the Holy Spirit?**
- **How does the Holy Spirit prepare a man to meet the spiritual qualifications in 1 Timothy 3:2-7 and Titus 1:5-9?**
- **What is the meaning of the statement, “An elder is an elder, because he is an elder”?**

How Can A Church Identify Elders?

- **How can a church identify the men whom the Holy Spirit has made to be elders?**
- **The qualifications given in 1 Timothy 3:2-7 and Titus 1:5-9 cover what three areas?**
- **What is the meaning of “above reproach” in 1 Timothy 3:2? How should we apply this statement?**

Qualifications Related to an Elder's Personal Life

- 1. The first qualification related to an elder's personal life is that he must be a "husband of one wife" (1 Timothy 3:2). Circle the correct view and explain.**
 - Does this mean he was never a polygamist? Explain.**
 - Does this mean he is not a widower? Explain.**
 - Does this mean he is not single? Explain.**
 - Does this mean he is totally devoted to his wife? Explain.**

Qualifications Related to an Elder's Personal Life

- 2. The second qualification related to an elder's personal life is that he is "temperate" (1 Timothy 3:2). Explain the meaning.**
- 3. The third qualification related to an elder's personal life is that he is "prudent" (1 Timothy 3:2). What does this mean?**
- 4. The fourth qualification related to an elder's personal life is that he is "respectable" (1 Timothy 3:2). What does this mean?**

Qualifications Related to an Elder's Personal Life

- 5. The fifth qualification related to an elder's personal life is that he is "hospitable" (1 Timothy 3:2). Explain the meaning.**

- 6. The sixth qualification related to an elder's personal life is that he is "not addicted to wine" (1 Timothy 3:3). What does this mean?**

- 7. The seventh qualification related to an elder's personal life is that he is "free from the love of money" (1 Timothy 3:3). What does this mean?**

Qualifications Related to an Elder's Personal Life

- 8. The fifth qualification related to an elder's personal life is that he is "not a new convert" (1 Timothy 3:6). Explain the meaning.**

- 9. The sixth qualification related to an elder's personal life is that he has a "good reputation with those outside the church" (1 Timothy 3:7). What does this mean?**

Qualifications Related to an Elder's Oversight Responsibilities

- 1. The first qualification related to an elder's oversight responsibilities is that he "manages his household well" (1 Timothy 3:4-5; Titus 1:6). Explain the meaning.**

- 2. The second qualification related to an elder's oversight responsibilities is that his "children are under control" (1 Timothy 3:5). What does this mean?**

Qualifications Related to an Elder's Shepherding Responsibilities

- 1. The primary qualification related to an elder's shepherding responsibilities is that he is "able to teach" (1 Timothy 3:2). Explain the meaning.**

Qualifications Related to an Elder's Relationship With the Team

- 1. The first qualification related to an elder's relationship with the team is that he is "not pugnacious" (1 Timothy 3:3; Titus 1:7). Explain the meaning.**
- 2. The second qualification related to an elder's shepherding responsibilities is that he is "gentle" (1 Timothy 3:3). What does this mean?**
- 3. The third qualification related to an elder's shepherding responsibilities is that he is "peaceable" (1 Timothy 3:3). What does this mean?**

Conclusion

- **Since the spiritual qualifications of an elder help us understand the characteristics of a godly man, how godly are you?**
- **If you are a man, are you are you spiritual qualified to be an elder?**