

God's
HOUSE

I Timothy 3:1-7

Elders are Mature Christians

1. All NT Churches were led by Plurality of Elders
2. *Overseer, Bishop, Elder, Pastor, Presbyter* all same office in NT
3. God is much more concerned with Character than Ability
4. Elders are the primary example of Christian Maturity
5. Qualifications of Elders are Marks of Maturity for all Christians

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#1 Desire

Means: You Have to Want it!

Danger: Do not get caught up in Lesser Desires

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#2 Above Reproach

(Blameless)

Means: *'nothing to be legitimately accused of'*
What have you Lost by Living Above Reproach?

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#3 Husband of One Wife

Means: *'a One Woman man'*
One of First Changes World sees
in a Christian is in their **Sexuality**

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Self-Controlled

#4 Sober-Minded

#5 Self-Controlled (*temperate*)

#6 Respectable (*good behavior*)

Self-Controlled in **Thoughts & Actions**

Do not Run to **Excesses**

Practice **Delayed Gratification**

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#7 Hospitable

Means: *Love of Strangers*

Do we love to spend time with others?

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#8 Able to Teach

The Only Skill on the List

Means: They Love God's Word, they Know it well, always Growing in it & Modeling it in their behavior

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Temperament

#9 Not a Drunkard

#10 Not Violent

#11 Not Quarrelsome

#12 Gentle

Means: Careful with **Addictive Substances**

Do not handle Conflict with **Physical, Emotional, or Verbal Abuse or Violence**

Gentleness means Strength **Restrained**

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#13 Not a Lover of Money

(Not covetous)

Mature Christians handle their Money different than world
They Live: simply, generously & sacrificially, content
If you struggle with Money than Give Generously

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#14 manages his own household well

Means: Elders lead a church like a **Godly Father**
If he cannot handle the little he cannot handle **the Big**

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#15 Not a Resent Convert

(not a Novice)

Means We do not remain a **Novice**
Mature Christians have been **Proven**

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#16 Well thought of by outsiders

(good testimony)

What does the World say about you?
Living different lives leads to **Hypocrisy**

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Marks of Maturity

Test Yourself

MARKS of MATURITY

1 Timothy 3:1-7

1. Do you have the **DESIRE?**
2. Are you living **ABOVE REPROACH?**
3. Are you **LOVING & HONORING** Spouse?
4. Are you **CONTROLLED** in thought?
5. Are you **CONTROLLED** in action?
6. Are you **RESPECTABLE?**
7. Are you **HOSPITABLE?**
8. Are you **TEACHING** God's Truth?

MARKS of MATURITY

1 Timothy 3:1-7

9. Are you **ADDICTED** to anything?
10. Are you **VIOLENT?**
11. Are you **QUARREL-SOME?**
12. Are you **GENTLE?**
13. Are you in **LOVE** with **MONEY?**
14. Are you **MANAGING** Household?
15. Are you a **NOVICE** in the faith?
15. Are you **RESPECTED** by Outsiders?

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