

Leadership Qualifications Self Examination

Name:

Date:

1. Above Reproach

Paul says an elder is to be a man who is *above reproach* (1 Tim. 3:2; Tit. 1:7). His lifestyle is such that no one can legitimately accuse him of conduct which is unbefitting a mature believer. However, this does not mean he is perfect or without room for improvement. Generally speaking, an elder is to be a model of Christian maturity.

- Do people have reason to look up to and respect you? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes
- Do people trust you with confidential information? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes
- Have you ever been accused of inappropriate behavior? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes
- Do you have a positive reputation as a Christian? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes

2. Not a new convert: Not a neophyte, novice, one newly converted (1Tim. 3:6). Does he truly know the Lord and has he shown definite progress in spiritual maturity?

- Do you have a track record of serving faithfully? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes
- Are you afraid of what other people think about you? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes
- Do you have a well-established Christian worldview? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes
- Do you exhibit patience and sacrifice? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes
- Do you feel your self-esteem is healthy? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes
- Are you a procrastinator? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes
- Do you handle failure well? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes
- Do you handle success well? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes

3. Devout: Does he demonstrate a definite commitment to know, love, and walk with God (Tit. 1:8)?

- Have you dedicated your life for God's service? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes
- Can you honestly say you love God? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes
- Are you actively pursuing Christ likeness? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes
- Are you consistent in prayer and worship? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes
- Are you becoming more and more like Jesus Christ? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes
- Are you becoming more pure in motive, thoughts, and lifestyle? No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes

4. Holding fast to the faithful word . . . able to exhort . . . and refute . . . (1 Tim. 3:2; Tit. 1:9). Is he a student of the Bible? Is he stable in the faith, sound in doctrine and practice? Does he know the Word well enough to teach it to others? Is he able to use the Word of God to exhort people with sound doctrine and to refute those who are antagonistic to the faith or the truth of Scripture?

- Do you have a broad and detailed knowledge of the Bible? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Are you committed to the Bible's authority? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you have respect for those who may disagree with you over interpretation? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you have an understanding of history and culture from the Christian perspective? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Are you able to challenge and exhort people from scripture? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you regularly spend time in Bible study? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you actively defend the faith from error? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*

5. If a man aspires to the office of overseer (1 Tim. 3:1). Based on biblical criteria and motives, does he have a strong desire to serve the Lord and the body of Christ as an overseer of the flock, or does he feel constrained by necessity (cf. 1 Pet. 5:2, "shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily according to the will of God")?

- Do you have a love for people and a desire to serve them? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do people trust you and follow your leadership? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*

6. Temperate (1 Tim. 3:2). In the everyday situations of life does he tend to react according to biblical principles so that he remains under God's control? Is he Spirit-controlled and disciplined rather than self-indulgent?

- Are you able to resist temptation? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you show restraint and control your emotions? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you demonstrate perseverance and patience? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you become a different person under stress? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Are you able to follow the direction of the Holy Spirit? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*

7. Prudent (1 Tim. 3:2). Is he prudent or biblically minded to the extent that he walks wisely according to the wisdom of Scripture?

- Are you watchful, circumspect and attentive to discover and avoid danger or to provide for safety? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you face difficulty with courage rather than fear? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Have you established spiritual goals for your life? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*

- Do you act decisively based on Scripture? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you seek God's wisdom before acting? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*

8. Not quick tempered (Tit. 1:7). Does he have a short fuse? Is he emotionally stable and in control of his feelings?

- Are you able to show restraint and control your emotions? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you harbor feelings of anger and resentment? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Have you ever been asked to calm down? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*

9. Husband of one wife (1 Tim. 3:2; Tit. 1:6). Literally, a one-woman man. He is a man totally devoted and faithful to his own wife so that he is not distracted by other women?

- Are you married? Yes No
- Have you ever divorced your wife or have been divorced? Yes No
- Have you ever been remarried following divorce or bereavement? Yes No
- Are you nicer to others than you are to your wife? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you sacrifice self-interest for your wife? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*

10. One who manages his own household well (1 Tim. 3:4-5; Tit. 1:6). Does his wife love, respect, and follow his leadership, and are his children believers, under control, respectful of authority, and responding positively to God?

- Do you assume responsibility for yourself and your family? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Are your children disciplined and following the Lord? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do your wife and children love and respect you? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Does your family see Christ in you? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*

11. Hospitable (1 Tim. 3:2; Tit. 1:8). Literally, "a lover of strangers." As he is able, does he share his home with others in order to minister to their needs?

- Do you open your home for the purpose of ministry? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Are you personally involved in the lives of others? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you reach out to neighbors, co-workers, etc.? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*

12. Able to teach (1 Tim. 3:2). Is he able to communicate the Word of God to others? Is he able to handle those who disagree with him in a patient and gentle manner? Have others recognized in him the ability to teach and communicate the Word at least in small group settings?

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| • Are you able to clearly communicate the Word of God in an effective non-argumentative way? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |
| • Do you model what you teach? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |
| • Does your life bear fruit in the lives of others? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |
| • Are you able to explain to others why you are a Christian? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |
| • Do you always have something to say that is appropriate? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |

13. Not self-willed (Tit. 1:7). A self-willed man is a self-centered man who demands his own way because he cares only for himself. As a servant, an elder must seek to please God and care for others. Is he able to set aside his own preferences in order to promote unity and care for the needs of others?

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| • Are you free from self-will or controlling tendencies? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |
| • Are you fair-minded and objective in relationships? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |
| • Do you serve with others without conflict? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |
| • Do you exhibit personal sacrifice and servanthood? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |
| • Do you submit to the authority of others? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |
| • Do you boast or exaggerate? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |
| • Do you make yourself accountable to others? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |
| • Do you demonstrate a life of submission to Christ? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |
| • Do you frequently insist on having your own way? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |

14. Loving what is good (Tit. 1:8). Literally, “a lover of goodness.” He is a man who is devoted to that which is good or beneficial either in things, deeds, or people (Ps. 15). Does he take advantage of opportunities to do good to all men (both Christians and non-Christians) in order to build them up rather than tear them down?

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| • Do you look out for the interests of others? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |
| • Do you look for what is good in others? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |
| • Are you ever critical of others? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |
| • Does your life exhibit goodness? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |
| • Do you demonstrate moral excellence? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |
| • Do you pursue what is good and right? | <i>No</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <i>Yes</i> |

15. Not pugnacious or a striker, i.e., anger out of control (1 Tim. 3:3; Tit. 1:7). Does he show a tendency to be either physically or verbally abusive? Has he shown a disposition to use a position of leadership to bully or push people around?

- Are you free from arguments and quarrels? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you have a history of verbal or physical abuse? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you do whatever it takes to get your way? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you ever tear another person down in jest or in anger? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*

16. Uncontentious (1 Tim. 3:3). He is not a quarrelsome person who struggles against others for self-seeking reasons such as jealousy or selfish ambition. He may strongly disagree, but he will state his case without being contentious.

- Are you a peacemaker helping to create harmony and unity? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you stir up arguments and destroy the unity in the group? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you criticize others for their ideas? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you compete with others? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*

17. Gentle (1 Tim. 3:3). This word in the original Greek text refers to strength under control, like a powerful, but gentle horse. Does he handle others in a gentle, patient, and gracious way? Is he yielding, showing a mellow gentleness, or is he heavy-handed, insisting on the letter of the law?

- Does your life reflect meekness, forbearance and kindness? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you consider yourself a patient person? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you handle criticism and anger graciously? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*

18. Just (Tit. 1:8). In his relationships with others, is he able to make just decisions, those that are wise, fair, impartial, objective, and honest according to the principles of Scripture?

- Do you associate yourself with truth, honor, and integrity? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Are you able to make decisions that are wise, fair, impartial, objective, and honest according to the principles of Scripture? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you ever withhold the truth to protect your image? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Are you able to tell the truth even though it might hurt you? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you blame others for your own mistakes? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*

19. Respectable, orderly, balanced (1 Tim. 3:2). Is he respected by others because his life adorns the Word of God? The basic idea of this word is orderly. It describes a man whose behavior is good and blended harmoniously in a balanced manner.

- Are you characterized by vision and accomplished plans? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you maintain balance and consistency in your life? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you demonstrate a systematic effort to grow spiritually? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*

20. Having a good reputation with those on the outside (1 Tim. 1:7). Does he have a good reputation among unbelievers because he has a life-style of unquestioned integrity.

- Do you have non-Christian friends? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Are you respected by friends and neighbors? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*

21. Free from the love of money (1 Tim. 3:3; Tit. 1:7). Does he have his priorities straight? Is he seeking his significance, security, and primary satisfaction from material wealth? Is he involved in dishonest business practices? Is the amount of salary he receives the most important thing about his occupation? Is he seeking the office of elder for personal gain?

- Do you seek first His kingdom and His righteousness? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Have you learned to let go of the desire for things? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you give regularly and sacrificially to God's work? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Have you turned your finances over to God trusting him to supply? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you live a materialistic lifestyle? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Are you a generous person? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Are you able to turn your vocation over to God to use you how and where he wants? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*

22. Not addicted to wine (1 Tim. 3:3; Tit. 1:7). Is he free from any form of substance abuse (alcohol, drugs, etc.) or any kind of addiction which might take control of his life, cause belligerent and irresponsible behavior, and cause weaker Christians to stumble (Rom. 14:13-21)?

- Do you set an example of sobriety? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Are you free from obsessions and compulsions? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Are you addicted to anything that is controlling your life? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Do you do anything that causes a weaker Christian to sin? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*
- Have you learned to master godless desires? *No* 1 2 3 4 5 *Yes*