Mat 129

Roles and responsibilities for church leaders

Hello Royal family and let me give a thanks and shout out to James the mighty one…thanks brother and Merry Christmas to all.

MOM keep in prayer…next message will be probably be on 30th or 31st.

Today will be a brief lesson but important one;

Turn to 1Timothy chapter 3 with me.

We are going to go over roles and responsibilities of church leaders…especially the pastor-teacher.

The lessons that Paul taught to Timothy were very important for church leadership roles & responsibilities.

The Apostle Paul took time to nurture Timothy and get him ready for the role of leadership and pastor-teacher.

/1Ti 3:1 It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the **office of overseer** (*episkopē*), it is a fine work he desires *to do.*\

EPISS-KA-PAY is where we get the office of Bishop from. It is a leadership role such as a guardian or one who watches over others.

It was translated over from the Greek into Latin later on and into English many years later…. where we see a certain denomination use the term Bishop. REPEAT

[1Ti 3:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/3/2/s_1122002) An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,

Some of this we have touched on but again it is not a command for a man to be married but rather a warning that any man in leadership should have his life in order. READ SCRIPTURE AGAIN.

[1Ti 3:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/3/3/s_1122003) not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, peaceable, free from the love of money.

Again, this is not about telling church leaders that they can not have a glass of wine or a beer but the issue is addiction.

Someone who is weak in an area and should not be indulging in this type of behavior…this is why it becomes important for those in roles of church leadership to be vetted by several reliable witnesses.

Another point that I will get into is this is all pointing to a masculine role…Paul is saying a man…not a woman is the one suited for this office.

I will remind you that TLJC had women in His ministry but the main roles were all men. The woman were actually stronger under pressure then most of the men and they gave time, talent and treasure probably more often than men yet God ordains men for these roles.

We can look at this deeper either today or the next lesson.

/1Ti 3:4 ***He must be* one who manages his own household well**, keeping his children under control with all dignity\

This is the key element….not marriage itself or even what type of man he used to be….. but what this man has proven himself to be now that he is born again & saved.

Is his life in order? Are there doctrinal people in the ministry who can point him out and say yes…this is a Bel with integrity.

[1Ti 3:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/3/5/s_1122005) (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?),

[1Ti 3:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/3/6/s_1122006) *and* not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil.

(Same thing is taught in chapter 5…)

1Tim 5:22 *Do not lay hands upon anyone too hastily and thereby share responsibility for the sins of others; keep yourself free from sin*.)

Anyone seeking positions within the church even women who want to work behind the scenes need to be seasoned doctrinal people…Bels with BD under their belt, a good rule of thumb is a Bel with at least 5 years of serious Bible study under their belt…honestly 10 years is even better.

[1Ti 3:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/3/7/s_1122007) And he must have a good reputation with those outside *the church,* so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

[/1Ti 3:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/3/8/s_1122008) **Deacons** (*diakonos*) likewise *must be* **men of dignity**, not double-tongued, or addicted to much wine or fond of sordid gain,\

DEE-ARK-OH-NOS - men meaning another male role in church leadership. This is a term for a servant of a king or one under authority of another.

REPEAT ELABORATE SERVICE!!

The deacon is under authority of the pastor and the rules of the church and we are all under the authority of TLJC.

[1Ti 3:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/3/9/s_1122009) *but* holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.

Notice these men along with all others in leadership hold to the mystery doctrine of the CA…meaning anything from the filling power of the HS to the Rapture of the church.

[1Ti 3:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/3/10/s_1122010) These men must also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons if they are beyond reproach.

This test means they are a proven commodity for the body of Christ. Men who have been around BD and are proven to be an asset and a trusted individual.

[/1Ti 3:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/3/11/s_1122011) **Women *must* likewise *be*** dignified, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things.

*“Deacons wives likewise should be”*\

The original Greek has it closer to this.

This is speaking to women in the role of a wife for a man in leadership.

[1Ti 3:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/3/12/s_1122012) Deacons must be husbands of *only* one wife, *and* good managers of *their* children and their own households.

[1Ti 3:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/3/13/s_1122013) For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a high standing and great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

Higher standard for church leadership.

When much is given much is required.

Flip over to 1Tim chapter 4.

/The role for Pastor, Evangelist or Deacon are all highlighted as masculine roles in scripture. These leadership roles were filled by men who were tested and trusted by Bels to be men of integrity and good character.\

Look what Paul goes on to teach Timothy about being a good pastor.

1Ti 4:6 In pointing out these things to the brethren, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, *constantly* nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine which you have been following.

[/1Ti 4:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/4/7/s_1123007) But **have nothing to do with worldly fables** fit only for old women. On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness;\

Timothy is being instructed to stay in the sound doctrine…not cosmic viewpoint or worldly teachings.

[1Ti 4:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/4/8/s_1123008) for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and *also* for the *life* to come.

There is a discipline for Pastor-teachers.

This is a discipline to study the word properly…not emotional nonsense.

[1Ti 4:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/4/9/s_1123009) It is a trustworthy statement deserving full acceptance.

[1Ti 4:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/4/10/s_1123010) For it is for this we labor and strive, because we have fixed our hope on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of believers.

[1Ti 4:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/4/11/s_1123011) Prescribe and teach these things.

[1Ti 4:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/4/12/s_1123012) Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but *rather* in speech, conduct, love, faith *and* purity, show yourself an example of those who believe.

[/1Ti 4:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/4/13/s_1123013) Until I come, **give attention** to the *public* reading *of Scripture,* to **exhortation and teaching**.\

This is a serious command from Paul.

That Greek verb -PROS-EK-OH is used for not only attention but a word or term for attaching oneself to something almost as if you were addicted to it!!!

 It speaks to a strong devotion.

[1Ti 4:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/4/14/s_1123014) Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which was bestowed on you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery.

[/1Ti 4:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/4/15/s_1123015) **Take pains with these things; be *absorbed* in them**, so that your progress will be evident to all.\

This is not a bunch of fluff that a pastor should be teaching…take pains… be absorbed in your study Timothy!

ELABORATE

Pains is that word MEL-AH-TA-HO this is an exhaustive practice or repetition over and over again.

To be absorbed means completely focused….think about these definitions…that is the job of the pastor!

[1Ti 4:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/4/16/s_1123016) Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.

The study we do on pastor-teacher will touch into the efforts and work of Paul next lesson but I just want to highlight a few things today

The Apostle Paul prepared Timothy not by having him counsel the weak Bels or get involved in the community or politics.

/2Ti 2:15 **Be diligent to present yourself** approved to God as **a workman who does not need to be ashamed**, **accurately handling** the word of truth.\

Paul made the focus on the word….study and teach until you are tired and get up and do it again Timothy.

There are great gems in the teaching of Timothy like…..

Chapter 5 tells the pastor how to deal with the elderly in the church.

/1Tim 5:1 Do not sharply rebuke an older man, but rather appeal to him as a father, to the younger men as brothers, 2 the older women as mothers, *and* the younger women as sisters, in all purity. 3 Honor widows who are widows indeed;\

Paul points out that the age of a widow matters…. a younger woman who is a widow is handled differently than a woman beyond the age of 60.

So you get a sense Paul is telling Timothy there will be some conflicts or personality issues that may come your way if the deacons can’t handle it or the need is great for the attention of the pastor.

Paul also warns that those Bels who don’t handle their own household affairs are just like the Unbel.

/1Ti 5:8 But **if anyone does not provide for his own**, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and **is worse than an unbeliever**.\

How are the Bels suppose to handle life under the authority of other Bels?

Paul tells Timothy to teach these principles to his congregation as well.

/1Ti 6:2 Those who have believers as their masters must not be disrespectful to them because they are brethren, **but must serve them all the more**, because those who partake of the benefit are believers and beloved. Teach and preach these *principles.\*

Respect for authority is always in view from the teaching of the word of God and even more so when the authority figure is a Bel.

Turn to Luke chapter 2.

I want to read a story we should all want to focus on at this time of year.

Actually a story we should have in the back of our minds all year round.

Stop the hustle and bustle and don’t buy into the commercial nonsense that the cosmic system wants you to focus on.

Luk 2:4 Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David,

[Luk 2:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/luk/2/5/s_975005) in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child.

[Luk 2:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/luk/2/6/s_975006) While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth.

Luk 2:7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

[Luk 2:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/luk/2/8/s_975008) In the same region there were *some* shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night.

[Luk 2:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/luk/2/9/s_975009) And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened.

[Luk 2:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/luk/2/10/s_975010) But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people;

/[Luk 2:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/luk/2/11/s_975011) for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.\

[Luk 2:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/luk/2/12/s_975012)“This *will be* a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

[Luk 2:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/luk/2/13/s_975013) And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

[Luk 2:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/luk/2/14/s_975014)“Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased.”

Merry Christmas

LESSON 130

2Ti 2:1 You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

[2Ti 2:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/2/2/s_1127002) The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

[2Ti 2:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/2/3/s_1127003) Suffer hardship with *me,* as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

[2Ti 2:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/2/4/s_1127004) No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life, so that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier.

[2Ti 2:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/2/5/s_1127005) Also if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not win the prize unless he competes according to the rules.

[2Ti 2:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/2/6/s_1127006) The hard-working farmer ought to be the first to receive his share of the crops.

2Ti 2:7 Consider what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

JUMP DOWN FEW VERSES

2Ti 2:14 Remind *them* of these things, and solemnly charge *them* in the presence of God not to wrangle about words, which is useless *and leads* to the ruin of the hearers.

[2Ti 2:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/2/15/s_1127015) Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.

[2Ti 2:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/2/16/s_1127016) But avoid worldly *and* empty chatter, for it will lead to further ungodliness,

[2Ti 2:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/2/17/s_1127017) and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus,

[2Ti 2:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/2/18/s_1127018) *men* who have gone astray from the truth saying that the resurrection has already taken place, and they upset the faith of some.

[2Ti 2:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/2/19/s_1127019) Nevertheless, the firm foundation of God stands, having this seal, “The Lord knows those who are His,” and, “Everyone who names the name of the Lord is to abstain from wickedness.”

2Ti 2:20 Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor.

[2Ti 2:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/2/21/s_1127021) Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these *things,* he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.

[2Ti 2:22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/2/22/s_1127022)Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love *and* peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

[2Ti 2:23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/2/23/s_1127023) But refuse foolish and ignorant speculations, knowing that they produce quarrels.

[2Ti 2:24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/2/24/s_1127024) The Lord’s bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged,

[2Ti 2:25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/2/25/s_1127025) with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth,

[2Ti 2:26](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/2/26/s_1127026) and they may come to their senses *and escape* from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these *men* also oppose the truth, men of depraved mind, rejected in regard to the faith.

[2Ti 3:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/9/s_1128009)

[2Ti 3:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/9/s_1128009) - But they will not make further progress; for their folly will be obvious to all, just as [fn]Jannes’s and Jambres’s folly was also.

[2Ti 3:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/10/s_1128010)

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[2Ti 3:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/10/s_1128010) - Now you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, [fn]perseverance,

[2Ti 3:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/11/s_1128011)

[2Ti 3:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/11/s_1128011) - persecutions, *and* sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium *and* at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord rescued me!

[2Ti 3:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/12/s_1128012)

[2Ti 3:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/12/s_1128012) - Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

[2Ti 3:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/13/s_1128013)

[2Ti 3:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/13/s_1128013) - But evil men and impostors will proceed *from bad* to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

[2Ti 3:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/14/s_1128014)

[2Ti 3:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/14/s_1128014) - You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned *them,*

[2Ti 3:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/15/s_1128015)

[2Ti 3:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/15/s_1128015) - and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

[2Ti 3:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/16/s_1128016)

[2Ti 3:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/16/s_1128016) - All Scripture is [fn]inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for [fn]training in righteousness;

[2Ti 3:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/17/s_1128017)

[2Ti 3:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2ti/3/17/s_1128017) - so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

1Thes 2:4 2Cor 6;3