

3. Which one stood out to you as the most important? Why
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Paul tells us why the recent convert should not be considered, but why might elevating one too quickly lead to the temptation listed. What is his judgment and what does it mean?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Why is it important to have a good reputation with outsiders? What is the devil's trap?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Who are examples of leaders we follow, people who influence us, besides church leaders? Why is it important for us to have a character test for such people?

### Prayer Requests:

## IT MATTERS WHO YOU FOLLOW 1 Timothy 3:1-13

The qualities of leaders are reflected in the standards they set for themselves.

Ray Kroc

Choosing the right leaders is not just important for churches; it's important for you.

### Leadership: it's about character

Some think that the work of an elder is neither noble nor attainable.

Two principles to consider:

It's not about perfection; it's about progress.

It's not about the past; it's about the present.

Welcome to church: it has a drunk, a bully, a quarreler or a miser

Three other areas where character counts:

The household – What it means and what it doesn't

The new convert – What it means and what it doesn't

Well thought of by outsiders – What it means and what it doesn't

Taking it beyond church

The people you should follow aren't perfect; but they should be progressing.

The people you follow shouldn't be condemning; they should be constructing. (Galatians 6:1)

Sunday, Jim talked about the “membership pool” that Timothy had to choose from to select church leaders. In that pool there were a number of surprising negative traits that Timothy was to avoid that were apparently present. Which one stood out to you the most and why?

Does it bother you that the church would have people like that attending? Why or why not?

1. Jot down each quality, positive or negative that either qualifies or disqualifies a person for leadership along with a brief word or phrase as to what it means.

2. Now go back and give a quick note how a leader with each quality would help or hurt a church.