

THE PASTORAL EPISTLES



Elders, Deacons, and Godliness: 1 Timothy 3

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A Scriptorium Study from The Fellowship of Ailbe

The Fellowship of Ailbe

The Pastoral Epistles: Elders, Deacons, and Godliness
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1 Timothy 3: Introduction

The Lord Jesus has an order for His churches, a way of conducting ourselves in the house of God that conduces to godliness. Paul is outlining that order, reminding Timothy of things he'd done and said while he was still with his young protégé in Ephesus.

Elders and deacons play important roles in the life of a local church. Elders, as shepherds, care for the souls of God's people, that they might increase in Christlikeness and be fully equipped for works of ministry. Deacons care for the material wellbeing of the congregation and its members, making sure that the blessings of God reach to all His people as needed.

Together these officers, working with faithful teachers, praying men, and godly women, are working to help the church realize more of the mystery of godliness – the mystery which is Christ in us, the hope of glory.

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1 A Good Work

Pray 102.1, 2.

Hear my prayer, O LORD,
And let my cry come to You.
Do not hide Your face from me in the day of my trouble;
Incline Your ear to me;
In the day that I call, answer me speedily.

Read and meditate on 1 Timothy 3.1.

Preparation.

1. What is an “overseer” (“bishop”)? Why do churches need them?
2. What makes serving as an overseer a “beautiful” or “good” work?

Meditate.

God has an order for His churches. That order begins in sound teaching. It requires men who pray and women who bear witness in godliness and good works. All church members – men and women alike – must learn to love God and their neighbors, so that the church, which is the Body of Christ and the new garden of Eden, can bear the fruit of Christ’s resurrection and reign in the world.

For this to occur, churches need structure. Paul continues in 1 Timothy 3 to outline the structure Christ intends for His churches. Overseers (NKJV: “bishops”) have a vital role to play in growing the local church. The office of overseer – or bishop or elder (cf. Tit. 1.5-7) – is borrowed from the Old Testament office of judge. The people of Israel were to appoint judges to rule over their cities. The judges met in the gates of the city to discuss matters relative to the common weal, handle issues of judgment, and teach the people the Law of God (cf. Ruth 4). Paul believed every church needed to have overseers, or elders (cf. Acts 14.23). A church that does not have overseers is a church that is not set in order as God intends (cf. Tit. 1.5).

The work of an elder is a “beautiful” or “good” work, according to Paul. It is beautiful as it is carried out, because it embodies the shepherding work of Jesus; and it is good because it issues in good works in the lives of God’s people and the congregation as a whole – as God originally intended for His garden (cf. Gen. 1.31).

The work of overseers is to watch over the congregation of God’s people. Their work is likened to the work of a shepherd, both in the Old Testament (cf. Ezek. 34.1-4) and in the New Testament (cf. Acts 20.28; 1 Pet. 5.1-3). They are to work hard to know the condition of their flock and the individual members thereof (Prov. 27.23); to watch over their souls for good (Heb. 13.17); and to interpret the Word of God for the life of the church (1 Tim.3.2), so that the Lord’s garden and all its plants might bear much fruit.

This is an office to which men may aspire (cf. v. 2). Elders or overseers are the primary disciple-makers in the local church. They are the “pastors and teachers” whose calling is to equip God’s people for works of ministry (Eph. 4.11, 12). This is a beautiful and good and necessary office, indeed. And, as we shall see, it takes a special kind of man to perform it.

Reflect.

1. In what ways is the work of an elder like the work of a shepherd?
2. How does the work of elders mirror the work of Jesus, the Good Shepherd (Jn. 10)?

3. What makes the office of elder beautiful and good? What is the responsibility of church members toward the elders of their church?

The office of a bishop is a good work, dearest brethren, as the blessed apostle says, "Whoever wants to be a bishop aspires to a noble task." Now when "task" is heard, labor is understood. Therefore whoever desires the office of bishop with this understanding wants it without the arrogance of ambition. To express this more clearly, if a man wants not so much to be in authority over the people of God as to help them, he aspires to be a bishop in the true spirit. Caesarius of Arles (470-543), Sermons 230.1

Lord, as I would learn to love more, so give me a heart to pray more, specifically to pray...

Pray Psalm 102.1-11.

Can you identify with the psalmist's state of mind and soul? Why are we all like this in some ways? Ask the Lord to help you search your soul, and be honest with Him about what He shows you there.

Sing Psalm 102.1-11.

Psalm 102.1-11 (*Leominster: Not What My Hands Have Done*)

Lord, hear my prayer and cry; hide not Your face from me!
In my distress and tears I sigh – Lord, hear my earnest plea!
My days like smoke blow past; my bones are scorched with sin.
My heart, like wilted, withered grass bends low to earth again.

With loudest groans and cries, and leanness in my soul,
no shel't'ring place arrests my eyes, no rest to make me whole.
My enemies grow strong; I weep with bitter tears.
My days are like a shadow, long; God's face is no more near.

2 Qualifications for Overseers

Pray 102.12-15.

But You, O LORD, shall endure forever,
And the remembrance of Your name to all generations.
You will arise *and* have mercy on Zion;
For the time to favor her,
Yes, the set time, has come.
For Your servants take pleasure in her stones,
And show favor to her dust.
So the nations shall fear the name of the LORD,
And all the kings of the earth Your glory.

Read and meditate on 1 Timothy 3.2-7.

Reflect.

1. How many different kinds of qualifications for being an elder can you identify?
2. What must those who would be elders guard against?

Meditate.

The role of an overseer – an elder or shepherd, like the Lord Jesus (1 Pet. 2.25) – is to “take care of the church of God”. But what kind of care does that require?

We can get a sense of the kind of care a church needs by looking at the requirements for those who would be elders. First, they must be blameless. This means they must be grounded in and obedient to the Law of God, so that no part of their life is contrary to the basic spiritual and moral constitution of the church (cf. Lk. 1.6). Churches need to be grounded in God’s Law as well, and blameless men can lead them.

Second, the elder must be the “husband of one wife” (v. 2). This indicates a man who is faithful and caring, and who rules his own house so that his children, while they reside at home, are in submission to the Lord (v. 4). The idea of a divine order comes up here again, as it is a root meaning of “to rule” and thus suggests that the role of elders is to make sure the divine order is in place in church, just as in their families. The church needs to hew to the divine order of things, and elders must be able to take care of the church accordingly.

Elders must be men of integrity, even tempered, serious, and exemplary in their personal and moral lives. They should be easy to talk with – gentle and not quarrelsome – and generous to a fault. They must maintain a humble disposition and guard against pride, lest they fall into sin (v. 6). And even those who are outside the body of Christ – co-workers, neighbors, members of the larger community – must consider the elders to be men of good character and testimony. Such good works, exemplified and taught, will help the church realize more of its fullness as the Body of Christ.

Jesus said that disciples will rise to the level of those who disciple them (Matt. 10.24, 25). When the elders of a church fit the bill Paul outlines here, they will work to help the members of the church rise to a similar plateau of discipleship. Peter says that the shepherd’s example is a key component of his work (1 Pet. 5.1-3). Get men of this quality who have the skills to teach (v. 2), develop the Lord’s order, and serve in all humility, and you’re on your way to having a church that will grow in unity and maturity in the Lord (Eph. 4.11-16).

Reflect.

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1. Rule, order, teach, serve: Use these four words to summarize the work of a shepherd or elder.
2. Why is it important that elders be men of good character, both within the church and in the larger community?
3. How would you explain to a new member of your church what the elders of the church should do?

Blameless: every virtue is implied in this word. If anyone is conscious to himself of any sins, he does not well to desire an office for which his own actions have disqualified him.... For why did no one say of the apostles that they were fornicators, unclean or covetous persons, but that they were deceivers, which relates to their preaching only? Must it not be that their lives were irreproachable? This is clear. John Chrysostom (344-407) Homilies on 1 Timothy 10

I know, Lord, that You have called me to serve others as well. Help me today to...

Pray Psalm 102.12-21.

The servants of God must love the “dust and stones” of God’s city, and they should all work together to build His Church for His glory.

Sing Psalm 102.12-21.

Psalm 102.12-21 (*Leominster: Not What My Hands Have Done*)

But You, O Lord, abide forever in Your place.

Arise and stand on Zion’s side and lavish us with grace!

Revive Your Church, O Lord! Let all her dust and stones
be strengthened by Your mighty Word, and compact be as one.

Then let the nations fear the glory of the Lord!

For He shall in His Church appear to heed our sighing words.

Then let our children learn to praise the Lord above.

He hears their groans and knows they yearn to dwell within His love.

3 Qualifications for Deacons

Pray Psalm 102.24-27.

I said, “O my God,
Do not take me away in the midst of my days;
Your years *are* throughout all generations.
Of old You laid the foundation of the earth,
And the heavens *are* the work of Your hands.
They will perish, but You will endure;
Yes, they will all grow old like a garment;
Like a cloak You will change them,
And they will be changed.
But You *are* the same,
And Your years will have no end.”

Read and meditate on 1 Timothy 3.8-13.

Reflect.

1. Read Acts 6.1-6. What is the role of deacons in the church?
2. What kind of people must deacons be? What promise does God make for faithful deacons?

Meditate.

The Greek word *διάκονος* originally indicated one who was assigned to wait a table, to serve the people as they ate. We see this idea embodied in Acts 6.1-6, where men were appointed to serve the church in Jerusalem by attending to the needs of a particular segment of that body. Their work facilitated the mutual care and edification of what had become a very large congregation.

Historically, the work of deacons in the Church has followed this example, focusing on the material needs of church members and the congregation as a whole. They must be men of a similar character as elders, who have first proven themselves as servants of others before they are actually placed in the office of deacon (v. 10). Notice also the characteristics of the wives of deacons (v. 11). Because their husbands were involved with people who had various material needs, their wives, who would support and probably work with them in ministry, had to be trustworthy, even-tempered, and faithful as well.

Whereas Paul added a warning to the work of elders – against pride (vv. 6, 7) – he adds a promise to the work of deacons: good standing and boldness in faith. Paul was undoubtedly thinking of Stephen in this (cf. Acts 6.8-10), a faithful deacon who – because of his role in Stephen’s martyrdom – was never very far from Paul’s mind (Acts 22.20).

Reflect.

1. Why do you suppose faithfulness as a deacon leads to “great boldness in the faith”?
2. What does it mean to hold “the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience”?
3. How can you see that the work of elders – watching over the souls of God’s people – and the work of deacons – caring for material needs – are both essential to the health and growth of a local church?

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Observe how he requires the same virtue from the deacons as from the bishops, for though they were not of equal rank, they must be equally blameless, equally pure. John Chrysostom (344-407), *Homilies on 1 Timothy 11*

Lord, You have called us all to serve others in love. Help me today as I...

Pray Psalm 102.18-28

God calls us to worship and serve Him in all we are and do. Pray that He will make you alert to every opportunity to serve Him today.

Sing Psalm 102.22-28.

Psalm 102.22-28 (*Leominster: Not What My Hands Have Done*)

Yet let us tell God's Name and praise His glorious grace.

Let all as one His love proclaim together in this place.

Though now our strength is low; though shortened grow our days,
our God will not forsake us so, but keep us in His ways!

Of old You made the earth and heavens by Your hand.

Though they shall perish You endure; forever shall You stand.

They change, yet You remain the same, without an end.

Our children shall Your favor gain, and theirs shall be Your friend.

4 Necessary Conduct

Pray 102.12, 13.

But You, O LORD, shall endure forever,
And the remembrance of Your name to all generations.
You will arise *and* have mercy on Zion;
For the time to favor her,
Yes, the set time, has come.

Read and meditate on 1 Timothy 3.14, 15.

Reflect.

1. Does it matter how a local church conducts its ministry?
2. How does Paul refer to the church here? What does that mean?

Meditate.

These two verses contain some sobering thoughts. Paul was – at least, he hoped – getting ready to come to Timothy in Ephesus. He was reminding Timothy of things he'd taught and work he'd done before in that city. And he expected that Timothy would take his words seriously.

So should we.

Paul says there is a way for churches to conduct their ministries. The NKJV “you ought to” is not as strong as Paul’s *δεῖ*, *dei* – “it is necessary.” It is *necessary*, for the church to realize its full potential as the Body of Christ, that church leaders ensure sound doctrine, develop men of prayer and women of piety and witness, and put in place qualified officers to watch over the souls and needs of God’s people. “It is necessary” to “conduct” the life and ministry of the church *this* way. It’s not optional. It’s not open to modification or substitution. “It is necessary.”

Jesus is coming soon to judge the world. Will He see that we have followed His plan for building His Church?

The local church “is the pillar and ground of the truth.” It upholds the truth for all areas of life, and it provides the ground – in the souls and lives of its members, and in the conduct of all its ministries – in which the truth is sown, takes root, and grows to fruition in a community. Paul expected the churches to be cities on a hill, beacons of truth and goodness and beauty to the world. Churches are the sign that the Kingdom has come, and the outpost from which it advances. If our churches are not these, then we have to ask, “Why not?” What expectations do we have for our churches? Do we really intend for them to conduct themselves in such a way as to shine the light of truth, spread the Good News of truth, and bring the warm and healing balm of truth to bear on every aspect of life in our communities?

Put another way: Do we think about our church the way Paul and Jesus do?

Reflect.

1. How would you summarize the mission of your church? What do you contribute to that mission?
2. Why is it “necessary” to conduct the church’s ministries as Paul teaches?

3. What should churches do in order to fulfill their callings as signs and outposts of the Kingdom of God?

Every one of us, indeed, who is instructed in the Holy Scripture is the administrator of some one of those gifts which, according to the gospel, have been apportioned to us. In this great household of the church not only are there vessels of every kind—gold, silver, wooden and earthen—but also a great variety of vocational pursuits. The house of God, which is the church of the living God, has hunters, travelers, architects, builders, farmers, shepherds, athletes, soldiers. Basil the Great (330-379), Homily on the Words: “Give Heed to Thyself”

Make me a pillar and ground for truth, Lord, as I go forth in Your Name today to...

Pray Psalm 102.12-21.

We need the Lord to revive us, and this psalm helps us to cry out to Him to arise and do so.

Sing Psalm 102.12-21.

Psalm 102.12-21 (*Leominster: Not What My Hands Have Done*)

But You, O Lord, abide forever in Your place.

Arise and stand on Zion’s side and lavish us with grace!

Revive Your Church, O Lord! Let all her dust and stones

Be strengthened by Your mighty Word, and compact be as one.

Then let the nations fear the glory of the Lord!

For He shall in His Church appear to heed our sighing words.

Then let our children learn to praise the Lord above.

He hears their groans and knows they yearn to dwell within His love.

5 The Mystery of Godliness (1)

Pray 102.24-27.

I said, “O my God,
Do not take me away in the midst of my days;
Your years *are* throughout all generations.
Of old You laid the foundation of the earth,
And the heavens are the work of Your hands.
They will perish, but You will endure;
Yes, they will all grow old like a garment;
Like a cloak You will change them,
And they will be changed.
But You *are* the same,
And Your years will have no end.”

Read and meditate on 1 Timothy 3.16.

Reflect.

1. What is a mystery? Is mystery essential to faith?
2. In what sense is godliness a mystery?

Meditate.

Paul says that godliness is a great mystery. He further says there’s no disputing this. This statement may be offensive to some people on two counts.

First, in our scientific and rational age, we don’t like the idea of mystery. We think we should be able to understand everything. Or at least, that we should understand something fully before we’re asked to believe it. We don’t like mysteries except as thrillers to read or watch on TV.

Further, we don’t like being told we can’t discuss or dispute something. We think everything should be open for discussion, at least until our opinion is recorded.

But Paul says godliness is a great mystery. Understanding how wretched sinners such as we can become godly in the sight of God is something only God can understand. We can’t fully explain it, but we believe it. We can understand enough of it to know that God is holy, that He requires holiness for any who would enjoy His presence, and that He alone supplies that holiness through the mystery of the Gospel (as we shall see in the next installment). And we believe this. We don’t propose other possible solutions to God, or debate with Him about the sufficiency of the Gospel. The mystery of godliness – how sinful people can be acceptable in the Presence of God – is great indeed, but it is settled once and for all by the wisdom, grace, and power of God.

We should not think that we have to be able to explain everything about our faith to the satisfaction of our lost neighbors. It’s a mystery. Our duty is to believe it, live it, proclaim it, and let the King of mysteries apply it as He will.

Reflect.

1. Godliness *must* be a mystery. It must be something only God fully understands. Why?
2. Why is the mystery of godliness “without controversy”?

3. What if someone doesn't care about being acceptable to God? Do we still need to proclaim the Gospel to such people? Explain.

For, the grace of God—by which the entire assembly of saints has always been justified—was not initiated at the time that Christ was born but augmented. This “mystery of great compassion,” with which the whole world has now been filled, was so powerful even in its prefigurations that those who believed it when promised attained to it no less than those who received it when actually given. Leo the Great (fl. 440-461), Sermons 23.4

Lord, give me grace today, that I might live the mystery of godliness and proclaim it to...

Pray Psalm 102.15-28

The Gospel is a great mystery, but we are called to proclaim it. Pray for an opportunity to talk with someone today about the salvation of the Lord.

Sing Psalm 102.15-28

Psalm 102.15-28 (*Leominster: Not What My Hands Have Done*)

Then let the nations fear the glory of the Lord!

For He shall in His Church appear to heed our sighing words.

Then let our children learn to praise the Lord above.

He hears their groans and knows they yearn to dwell within His love.

Yet let us tell God's Name and praise His glorious grace.

Let all as one His love proclaim together in this place.

Though now our strength is low; though shortened grow our days,
our God will not forsake us so, but keep us in His ways!

Of old You made the earth and heavens by Your hand.

Though they shall perish You endure; forever shall You stand.

They change, yet You remain the same, without an end.

Our children shall Your favor gain, and theirs shall be Your friend.

6 The Mystery of Godliness (2)

Pray 102.1, 2.

Hear my prayer, O LORD,
And let my cry come to You.
Do not hide Your face from me in the day of my trouble;
Incline Your ear to me;
In the day that I call, answer me speedily.

Read and meditate on 1 Timothy 3.16.

Reflect.

1. How would you explain the “mystery of godliness” to an unbelieving friend?
2. Who is the focus of this verse? What do we learn about Him?

Meditate.

Paul unpacks “the mystery of godliness” – at least, to the extent that we can understand it.

Godliness, as we might expect, begins in God. That’s mystery enough, we might suppose. Who can fully understand or explain God? Godliness is “God-likeness.” And godliness is what God is all about.

God “was manifested in the flesh.” That’s pretty mysterious. The reference here is clearly to Jesus. We can explain *why* the incarnation happened, and a little bit of the *how*, but not all the wondrous spiritual details of it.

The incarnate God was “justified in the Spirit.” His work was finished, and His claims were proved by the Spirit’s anointing and raising Him from the dead. He was “seen by angels” – who, it seems, are ever curious about the mystery of godliness (cf. 1 Pet. 1.12) – that is, worshiped and adored at His ascension. He has been proclaimed and believed throughout the world. Who can explain that? People believe what they cannot see, declare their belief to others, and they believe, too. That’s certainly a mystery.

And as Christ was “received up in glory,” so are all those who believe in Him, devoting themselves to Him, participating in His Body the Church, seeking His Kingdom, and living for His glory in every aspect of their lives.

Godliness extends from God through Christ and the Spirit to all who believe in Him and live for His glory.

Great, indeed, is this mystery of godliness!

Reflect.

1. How do you experience the mystery of godliness?
2. Why must we insist that godliness is central to the Gospel?
3. To whom does the duty fall of proclaiming the mystery of godliness? How should we do that?

Behold the Savior’s greatness. It extends to all the world.... Go up to the heavens. See how he fills the celestial regions, “He appeared to the angels.” Go down in your mind to the nether world. See that he went down there, too.... Ponder the Lord’s power, how it has filled the world—that is, the heavens, the earth and the nether regions. Origen (185-254), Homilies on

Luke 6.9-10

Lord, You have called me to live and proclaim the mystery of godliness, and today I will as I...

Pray Psalm 102.1-14.

We are always in need of a greater measure of our great salvation. Let these verses guide you to seek it today.

Sing Psalm 102.1-14.

Psalm 102.1-14 (*Leominster: Not What My Hands Have Done*)

Lord, hear my prayer and cry; hide not Your face from me!
In my distress and tears I sigh – Lord, hear my earnest plea!
My days like smoke blow past; my bones are scorched with sin.
My heart, like wilted, withered grass bends low to earth again.

With loudest groans and cries, and leanness in my soul,
No shel’ring place arrests my eyes, no rest to make me whole.
My enemies grow strong; I weep with bitter tears.
My days are like a shadow, long; God’s face is no more near.

But You, O Lord, abide forever in Your place.
Arise and stand on Zion’s side and lavish us with grace!
Revive Your Church, O Lord! Let all her dust and stones
be strengthened by Your mighty Word, and compact be as one.

7 Godly Structure, Godly Church

Pray 102.12-15.

But You, O LORD, shall endure forever,
And the remembrance of Your name to all generations.
You will arise *and* have mercy on Zion;
For the time to favor her,
Yes, the set time, has come.
For Your servants take pleasure in her stones,
And show favor to her dust.
So the nations shall fear the name of the LORD,
And all the kings of the earth Your glory.

Review 1 Timothy 3.

Reflect.

1. What kind of leadership structure does Paul command for the Lord's churches? What kind of leaders?
2. What is the mystery of godliness, and why is it so great?

Meditate.

The local church is the place where God is working out the mystery of godliness on earth. As people come to faith in Christ and are united with His Body, leadership works to equip them to grow in Christ and devote themselves to serving Him. Elders and deacons work to keep the Body of believers growing together, so that the work of Christ can bring forth godliness in each member and through them, into the community and the world.

That's the plan, at least.

In our day churches seem to have lost sight of godliness. Church is more a place for feeling good about ourselves in the Lord, than for working out our salvation in fear and trembling (Phil. 2.12). Church leaders are more interested in meeting our needs and their budget, than in equipping the saints for godliness and ministry (Eph. 4.11, 12). Paul has been guiding us in the Lord's plan for growing His churches – sound instruction leading to lives of love, men who pray earnestly, women whose witness is exemplary in godliness and quiet learning, and churches increasing in godliness, led by godly elders and deacons. Are we listening? Or have we decided that we know better than the Lord how to conduct ourselves in the pillar and ground of truth, which is the church?

The church will not realize its calling in the divine economy as the sign and outpost of the Kingdom unless we submit in humble silence to the instruction of God's Word, and put on godliness in all our ways.

Reflect.

1. How would you explain the idea of godliness, and what it requires, to a new believer?
2. What is the role of elders in promoting godliness? What is the role of deacons in promoting godliness?
3. The mystery of godliness may be more than we can fully understand, but does this excuse us from seeking to increase in godliness? Explain.

Honor the holy church as your mother. Love her, proclaim her the Jerusalem which is above, the holy city of God. She it is who,

in this faith which you have heard, bears fruit and grows in the whole world, the church of the living God, the pillar and buttress of the truth. Augustine (354-430), *Sermons 214.11*

Thank You for my church, Lord. Help me to increase in godliness as I...

Pray Psalm 102.

This is a psalm seeking the Lord for revival. Let the Spirit search you as you pray the first part, then call on the Lord to arise and revive His people, and bring a great awakening to the world.

Sing Psalm 102.

Psalm 102 (*Leominster: Not What My Hands Have Done*)

Lord, hear my prayer and cry; hide not Your face from me!
In my distress and tears I sigh – Lord, hear my earnest plea!
My days like smoke blow past; my bones are scorched with sin.
My heart, like wilted, withered grass bends low to earth again.

With loudest groans and cries, and leanness in my soul,
No sheltring place arrests my eyes, no rest to make me whole.
My enemies grow strong; I weep with bitter tears.
My days are like a shadow, long; God's face is no more near.

But You, O Lord, abide forever in Your place.
Arise and stand on Zion's side and lavish us with grace!
Revive Your Church, O Lord! Let all her dust and stones
be strengthened by Your mighty Word, and compact be as one.

Then let the nations fear the glory of the Lord!
For He shall in His Church appear to heed our sighing words.
Then let our children learn to praise the Lord above.
He hears their groans and knows they yearn to dwell within His love.

Yet let us tell God's Name and praise His glorious grace.
Let all as one His love proclaim together in this place.
Though now our strength is low; though shortened grow our days,
our God will not forsake us so, but keep us in His ways!

Of old You made the earth and heavens by Your hand.
Though they shall perish You endure; forever shall You stand.
They change, yet You remain the same, without an end.
Our children shall Your favor gain, and theirs shall be Your friend.

Questions for reflection or discussion

1. What should the role of elders be in a local church?
2. What should the role of deacons be?
3. What does it mean to say that the church is the pillar and ground of truth?
4. What is the mystery of godliness, and what makes it so great?
5. What's the most important lesson you've learned from 1 Timothy 3? How are you putting that lesson to work in your Personal Mission Field?

For prayer:

The Fellowship of Ailbe

The Fellowship of Ailbe is a spiritual fellowship in the Celtic Christian tradition. Our goal is to promote revival, renewal, and awakening, following the teaching of Scripture and the example and heritage of our forebears in the faith.

The Fellowship of Ailbe offers many opportunities for training, prayer, personal growth, and ministry. Visit our website at www.ailbe.org to learn more.

We hope you found this study helpful. If so, please consider making a gift to The Fellowship. You can contribute to our ministry by using the donate button at the website, or by sending your gift to The Fellowship of Ailbe, 19 Tyler Dr., Essex Junction, VT 05452.

Thank you.