

Qualifications Of An Elder

1 Tim. 3:1-7...

- That he is a man seeking to do a noble thing!
- Paul assumes the one desiring to be an elder is a believer & follower of Jesus Christ!
- Aspires to the office- desires it, wants to serve!
- Has a life that is above reproach- solid in public character qualities
- That he is faithful to his wife
- Temperate- not addicted to drugs or drink
- Respectable
- Able to teach- he can make the scriptures understandable & give insight & biblical instruction in a private/public forum.
- Not given to drunkenness
- Not violent but gentle
- Not quarrelsome
- Not a lover of money- he is a generous man
- He manages his family well
- He does it without harshness or too much permissiveness
- Not a recent convert- needs some miles of walking with Jesus under his belt.
- Has a good reputation from outsiders- people outside the church have an unquestioned respect for this man.

Titus 1:5-9...

(Qualifications for overseer/elder/pastor are similar to those listed in 1 Tim. 3:1-7)

- Elder must be blameless
- Faithful to his wife
- A man whose children believe & are not open to the charge that they are wild and disobedient.
- He is to manage God's household
- He must be blameless
- Not overbearing
- Not quick tempered
- Not given to drunkenness
- Not violent
- Not pursuing dishonest gain
- He must be hospitable
- He loves what is good
- He is self-controlled
- He is upright
- He lives a life that is holy, committed to Jesus and disciplined.
- He must keep hold of the truths of the faith with a clear conscience, so he can encourage others by sound doctrine & refute those who oppose it.

Ordination Questions For The Elder Candidates

1. Are you willing to take on the role of Elder in Baycities Lomita Church & the responsibilities and challenges that being ordained to the post of Elder requires?
2. Do you believe in one God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit? Do you confess anew the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior & Lord, and acknowledge Him Head over all things for the Church, which is His Body?
3. Do you reaffirm your belief in the Bible, the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired Word of the living God, the only perfect rule of faith and practice, infallible, inerrant in the original manuscripts, and to which nothing is to be added to or taken away from? Will you adhere to it to guide & inform your decisions & ministry?
4. Will you commit to keeping Baycities Lomita a church that is always committed to fulfilling our portion of the Great Commission and the Great Commandment?
5. Will you take on the purpose and mission of our church as your own and lead Baycities Lomita by your personal example and leadership: to engage every person to find, follow and love Jesus?
6. Will you partner with the Lead elder and with other elders as might be added to the elder board to faithfully lead Baycities Lomita to know and to do the will of God as determined by the elder board, following God's word & leading of His Holy Spirit?
7. Will you commit to being a prayer warrior for this church and to care for the members of Baycities Lomita with love & faithfulness like they were beloved members of your own family?
8. Will you commit to seeking Jesus daily for His wisdom and guidance and to loving Him with all your heart, mind, soul and strength?
9. Do you commit to serving in the role as an Elder of Baycities Lomita church until you resign or are removed for cause by the elder board acting in unison to end your term as elder?
10. Will you lead out in your areas of ministry oversight with personal involvement, energy and commitment to guide & inspire the leaders under you to use their gifts/abilities to serve our mission?
11. Do you accept the office of elder in this congregation; and do you promise to perform faithfully all the duties of the office; and do you promise to endeavor by the grace of God to live your life in Christian witness before the church and in the world?

Questions For the Congregation...

1. Do we agree to pray for the elders, encourage them, to respect them and their decisions and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is head of the church?
2. Will we agree to support and follow the leadership of our elders? Will we listen to the words they preach and teach us, welcome their pastoral care and honor their servant leadership and authority as they individually and collectively seek to honor Jesus in all they do?
3. Will we commit to using our talents, time and treasure to do our individual parts to help build the kingdom of God through Baycities Lomita in the days and weeks and years that follow?

Responsibilities Of The Elders

1. Rule the church in all areas
2. Leads by example actively ministering to believers
3. To be prayer warriors for our church
4. Set the spiritual priorities & directions
5. Oversee the calendar of the church
6. Determine preaching focuses- planning
7. Bring messages- determine subs. As needed.
8. Set the budget and salaries- with help from the Fin. Advisory Team member(s).
9. Manage budget & business side of church
10. Oversee our facilities development/maint.
11. Direct the ministries of our church
12. Select leaders to serve in ministry positions.
13. Select & confirm a new Lead Pastor if/when a vacancy occurs.
14. Protect the church- theologically, deal with conflict resolution & maintain our unique church culture!