

**Selecting Spiritual Overseers**  
**Part 2: Analyzing their Morality**  
1 Timothy 3:2,3

**Introduction** - Today we will look at four issues of morality.

1. Every believer SHOULD attain these moral standards.
2. Every spiritual leader or anyone who seeks a spiritual leadership position MUST have attained these standards.

**The issue of sexuality (2)**

*The husband of one wife*

- Does this mean that a spiritual leader must be married? - Both Paul and Timothy were spiritual leaders but they were s\_\_\_\_\_.  
● Does this mean that a spiritual leader cannot be divorced?
  1. Some say that divorce does not dissolve marriage in God's sight and so, if a divorced man remarries, he becomes the husband of \_\_\_\_ wives.
  2. But what if a divorced man does not remarry? Is not he still the husband of one wife?
  3. What if a man loses his virginity while single and marries someone else, is he disqualified?
  4. What if a man got divorced b\_\_\_\_\_ he became a Christian?
  5. FACT – this wording says nothing about divorce or remarriage.
- Does this mean that a spiritual leader must have the philosophy and practice of being a one-woman kind of man?
  1. In the Greek language, the word used for *wife* is the same word used for *woman*. Greeks distinguished between the two by placing the word “the” before the word if they meant *wife* or leaving it off if they meant *woman*. The same goes for the word *h*\_\_\_\_\_ and *man*.
  2. In this phrase, there is no \_\_\_\_\_ before any of the two words. So, it should be translated *a one-woman man*. This is talking about a spiritual leader's ph\_\_\_\_\_ and practice when it comes to sexuality.
    - a. Anyone who has the philosophy or practice that h\_\_\_\_\_sexuality is okay is disqualified.

- b. Anyone who has the philosophy or practice that s\_\_\_\_\_ is to be reserved for marriage between one man and one woman fulfills this standard.
- Every believer SHOULD have the philosophy and practice that sex is to be reserved for marriage between one man and one woman but a spiritual leader MUST have this philosophy and practice.

### **The issue of alcohol (3)**

*not addicted to wine*

- The Greek word, translated addicted to wine, pictures a person with wine always beside him.
  1. It is not a prohibition against the u\_\_\_\_\_ of alcohol – this was what the Jewish, Roman, and Greek culture had to drink because the water was unsafe to drink.
  2. It is a prohibition against the a\_\_\_\_\_ of alcohol – Jews tended to drink responsibly, but Greeks and Romans got drunk, especially at pagan feasts.
- No believer should resign themselves to addiction to alcohol or d\_\_\_\_\_.
  1. If a believer is addicted, he or she must strive to overcome it.
    - a. For most, overcoming addiction to alcohol or drugs is a s\_\_\_\_\_.
    - b. As long as the struggle exists, you have to say that you are still addicted.
  2. Once there is no struggle, you are no longer addicted.
    - a. Alcoholics Anonymous teaches that once an alcoholic, a\_\_\_\_\_ an alcoholic.
    - b. The Bible teaches that our identity is not tied to our struggles, but to C\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Cor 6:9-11)
- A spiritual leader
  1. Is not disqualified by an alcoholic or drug-addicted p\_\_\_\_\_.
  2. MUST not s\_\_\_\_\_ with such addiction

### **The issue of relationships (3)**

*not a violent person, but gentle and peaceable*

- No believer should be violent, but should be characterized by gentleness (kindness) and peace (maintaining h\_\_\_\_\_ with others)

1. Have churches split over music or programs or leadership? In reality, churches split because of wrong a\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Can believers from different political philosophies be gentle and peaceable toward one another?
  - a. The Bible does not tell us that one form of government is better than another. What form of government did God set up for Israel? – a m\_\_\_\_\_ (but they asked for this kind – 1 Samuel 8:4-10).
  - b. God has left it up to humanity to figure out what form of government works best.
  - c. Open dialogue that is gentle and peaceable will keep people from different political viewpoints in h\_\_\_\_\_. (Christians must distinguish between what is opinion and what is sin).

●All believers SHOULD be peaceable and gentle, but every spiritual leader MUST be this way.

### **The issue of money (3)**

*not a lover of money*

- This refers to a strong emotional attachment to money. Would any of the following qualify?
  1. You look forward to your paycheck each week.
  2. You found out that you won \$1000, and you start dancing.
  3. You drive a new car.
  4. You live in a 2500 + square foot home.
- Jesus warned against money becoming our m\_\_\_\_\_ (Matt 6:24).
  1. It will cause us to h\_\_\_\_\_ anything or anyone that comes into conflict with it, even G\_\_\_\_\_!
  2. Money must become our s\_\_\_\_\_.
    - a. We must use it wisely under the l\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus.
    - b. Apply the principles of Financial Peace University.
- No believer SHOULD be a lover of money. But every spiritual leader MUST not be a lover of money.

### **Conclusion:**

1. How are you doing in the area of morality?
2. Which ones do you need to work on?
3. Which ones will you work on this week?