

The Portrait of a Pastor

This 5-day devotional guide will help you prepare your heart for the upcoming Sunday sermon, "The Portrait of a Pastor." It may also be used as a guide for family devotions and is for the week beginning Monday, October 12, 2026.

Monday

Scripture: 1 Timothy 3:1

Questions for Reflection

- What office does Paul mention in this verse?
- How does Paul describe the work of an overseer (pastor)?
- Why is it important to view pastoral ministry as a work of service rather than a position of status?
- How can you encourage and support those whom God calls into church leadership?

Questions for Children

- What job is mentioned in this verse?
- Is the work of a pastor called a good work?

Prayer Prompt

Lord, thank You for calling men to shepherd and serve Your church. Help me appreciate faithful pastoral ministry

and pray regularly for those who lead Your people.

Tuesday

Scripture: 1 Timothy 3:2

Questions for Reflection

- What character qualities does Paul say a pastor must possess?
- Which qualification specifically relates to teaching God's Word?
- What stands out most to you about Paul's emphasis on character in this verse?
- Which of these qualities would you like God to develop more fully in your own life?

Questions for Children

- What does this verse say a pastor must be able to do?
- What kind of reputation should a pastor have?

Prayer Prompt

Father, raise up pastors whose lives match the message they preach. Help me pursue a Christlike character that reflects Your grace to others.

Wednesday

Scripture: 1 Timothy 3:3

Questions for Reflection

- What behaviors and attitudes are pastors commanded to avoid?

- What positive qualities are they commanded to display instead?
- Why do you think gentleness is essential for someone who leads God's people?
- How can you respond more graciously when you face disagreement or frustration this week?

Questions for Children

- Name one thing this verse says a pastor should not be.
- Name one good quality this verse says a pastor should have.

Prayer Prompt

Gracious God, help our pastors lead with humility, kindness, and self-control. Teach me to reflect the gentleness of Christ in my relationships each day.

Thursday

Scripture: 1 Timothy 3:4-5

Questions for Reflection

- What responsibility does Paul say a pastor has in his own household?
- What comparison does Paul make between caring for a family and caring for a church?
- Why does faithful leadership in the home matter for church leadership?
- What is one specific way you can serve and strengthen your family this week?

Questions for Children

- How should a pastor lead his family?
- What group of people is compared to a family in these verses?

Prayer Prompt

Lord, help pastors faithfully care for their families as they care for Your church. Strengthen my home as a place where Your truth, love, and wisdom are clearly seen.

Friday

Scripture: 1 Timothy 3:6-7

Questions for Reflection

- Why should a pastor not be a recent convert?
- What kind of reputation should he have with people outside the church?
- How do humility and spiritual maturity protect believers from pride?
- What can you do this week to maintain a strong testimony before both Christians and non-Christians?

Questions for Children

- Should a pastor be a new Christian or a mature Christian?
- According to these verses, who should respect a pastor?

Prayer Prompt

Heavenly Father, protect our pastors from pride and help them walk faithfully before both the church and the world. Grow me in spiritual maturity so that my life points others to Christ.