

“He Desires A Good Work”

“This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work”
(1Tim.3:1)

In What Sense Is The Work “Good?”

- “Useful for a particular purpose; functional; effective” (Wiktionary)
- “Having qualities fitted to produce or secure some desirable, practical results” (Funk & Wagnall)
- “Excellent in its nature and characteristics, and therefore well adapted to its ends” (Thayer)
- “Denotes that which is intrinsically good...as of that which is well adapted to its circumstances or ends” (W.E. Vine)

Evidence Serving As A Bishop Is A “Good Work”

- **Eph.4:11-16—Promoting Spiritual Growth**

Spiritually immature can cause problems in the church

Without elders, preachers can become overwhelmed, distracted and discouraged

Without elders, immature are often ignored, dealt with improperly, or allowed to tear a church apart

Evidence Serving As A Bishop Is A “Good Work”

- **Acts 20:28-32—Tending, Feeding, Protecting**
Without elders, teaching efforts are often inadequate
Without elders, false teaching can easily destroy a church
- **1Pet.5:1-4—Overseers and Examples**
We “were like sheep going astray” (2:25)
We need shepherds as good examples to follow
- **1Thess.5:12-14—Labor for Us & Admonish Us**
- **Heb.13:17—Watch Out for Our Souls**

Who Should Desire This Good Work?

- Who should desire “good works”? (Titus 2:11-14; 3:1,8,14)
- Ability plus opportunity equals responsibility (Matt.25:14-18; Rom.12:1-8)
- What are elders supposed to be? (Matt.20:20-28)
- Who should desire to be servants?
“You, brethren...through love serve one another.”
(Gal.5:13)