

Readings to prepare for the coming week:

___DAY 1 (January 27): 1 Peter 5:1-11

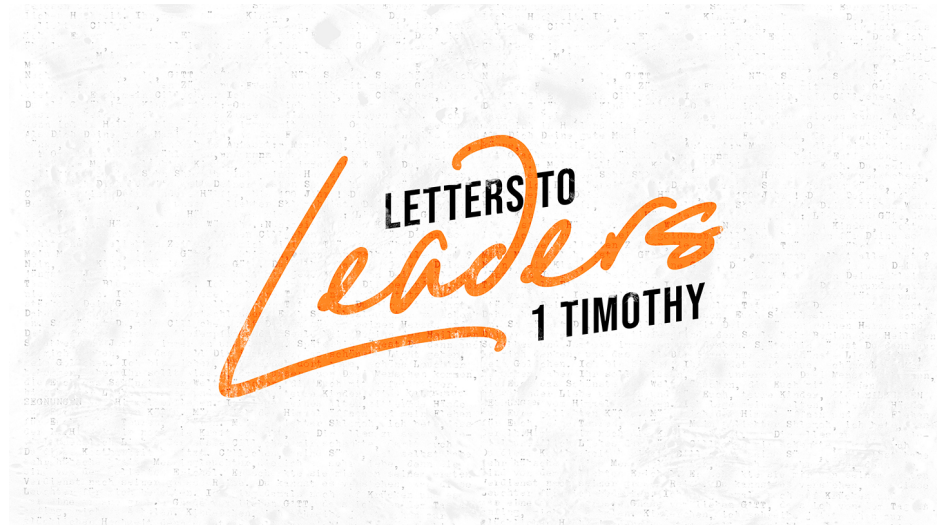
___DAY 2 (January 28): John 21:15-21

___DAY 3 (January 29): Luke 15:11-32

___DAY 4 (January 30): Matthew 19:13-15

___DAY 5 (January 31): Matthew 19:16-30

___DAY 6 (February 1): 1 John 1:7-14



Noble Aspirations

Week Three 1 Timothy

This week we are looking at 1 Timothy 3:1-13. This passage is about leaders in the church, from those serving as Elders and overseers to the servants and deacons of the church. There are family, personal, and public qualifications for leaders. Instead of being focused on our competency, they are focused on our character. Our spaces must be in order so we can be freed up to serve in leadership in God's Church. God has given us all a calling to serve others with our lives. Are we going to fulfill what God has called us to be? What are we waiting for?

Making it personal...

Which observation(s) from Sunday's sermon do you feel the need to apply to your life (see below)?

When you think of "Elders" or "Overseers" what do you think they are and do? Why do you think it's "noble" to have aspirations of being one?

Of the character qualities in 1 Timothy 3, which have been the hardest to live up to? Which have been more natural for you?

How would you explain the difference between an Elder, a Deacon and a ministry partner (church member)?

Would other church attenders or ministry partners describe you as a "servant"? Why or why not?

Men: To what degree do the characteristics Paul lists in verses 2-7 describe you? What about the descriptions in verses 8-10, 12-13?

Women: To what degree are these characteristics Paul lists in verses 2-7, 8-10, 12-13 the ones you most admire in men?

Women: Since many of the character qualities are to be equally pursued by women, where can you be encouraged by them and how do you need to change? Men: Where can you be encouraged and how do you need to change?

We are being told how to act, speak and think in our interactions with others. How does this passage change your standard for leadership? What convictions does this give you regarding your own leadership?

In your "SonLight Circle," pray for God to move this week and for the rest of our lives to be intentional in our pursuit of character and sacrificial love. Share prayer requests from the last question and pray over each other.