



Christian Questions

TALK RADIO WITH A PURPOSE

You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:13

Dear Gerry,

Thank you for writing us at Christian Questions Radio. You told us you had some issues or concerns regarding your preacher's conduct both at and away from church. You wanted to know if there were scriptures that would help you with your concerns. You wondered if you should leave your church.

While we cannot tell anyone to leave their church, we can point to some scriptures that describe the qualifications of Elders and Deacons. 1 Timothy 3:1-13 gives a very good description of the principles of sound behavior needed for a church leader.

1 Timothy 3:1-13 New International Version (NIV) Qualifications for Overseers and Deacons

3 Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task. **2** Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, **3** not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. **4** He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect. **5** (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) **6** He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. **7** He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap. **8** In the same way, deacons are to be worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. **9** They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. **10** They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons. **11** In the same way, the women are to be worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything. **12** A deacon must be faithful to his wife and must manage his children and his household well. **13** Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus.

We hope we have given you some guidance as you determine what your course of action will be. Be sure to go to www.christianquestions.com and sign up for CQ Rewind. It is free, without obligation, and will provide you with scriptural perspective on many questions and topics.

Sincerely,

Christian Questions Radio

