

## MOOREBANK & HAMMONDVILLE ANGLICAN CHURCH

### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION OR REFLECTION

Bible Passage: 1 Timothy 3

*Aim: to reflect on our attitudes to ministers, to who serves in our church, & to what our church is about.*

#### **Read 1 Timothy 3.**

#### **Elders/Overseers (vv. 1-7) = Ministers:**

- 1) What character and conduct should we expect of our ministers? What do all these terms mean? Why do you think these are important for ministers?
- 2) According to Paul, what capacities/skills should we expect of our ministers? What does this tell us about the role of a minister?
- 3) **Read Acts 6:1-7; 20:28-35.** According to Acts, what is the role of a minister?
- 4) What expectations do we have for what a minister does? Why do we have these expectations?
- 5) If everyone in the church has different expectations of a minister (as they do), what effect might this have on a minister's core duties? What is the solution to this?

#### **Deacons (vv. 8-13) = Lay people who serve:**

- 6) What are the different roles in our church that people serve in apart from our ministers?
- 7) What character, conduct, and capacities should we expect of such people? Why do you think these are important for those who serve?
- 8) In v. 11, Paul says that a deacon's wife should be proven also. Why do you think this is the case?
- 9) Given that Paul happily calls Phoebe a deacon in Rom. 16:1, why do you think Paul speaks as if deacons are men in 1 Timothy 3?
- 10) What are the two benefits that deacons receive for their service in v. 13?
- 11) What does this passage tell us about our attitude concerning whom can serve in our church?

#### **The Church (vv. 14-16):**

- 12) What three labels does Paul give the church in vv. 14-15? What do each of these mean? What do they tell us about the purpose of the church?
- 13) What do each of the six lines in the poem in v. 16 mean? What is this poem about? What does it tell us about godliness?
- 14) In what ways are we tempted to make church about us? Who should church be all about?