

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Why You Need a Pastor
Titus—Wk 1

ICEBREAKER: Where are you going?

OVERVIEW: The Bible is clear that every church needs a pastor — to set an example, to manage the church, to teach the church, and to guard it against false teaching. And if the church needs a pastor, and you are a part of the church, then that means you need a pastor in your life. This week we are studying what the Bible says about the role and responsibilities of a pastor so that the pastor can better do his job, and so that we can better encourage and support the pastor in his leadership of the church.

1. **Read Titus 1:1-16.** What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Tell about how God has used a pastor in a significant way to help you grow in Christ (does not have to be Pastor Andy)?
3. Why does the church need a pastor?
4. The Pastoral Epistles strongly emphasize that pastors must have impeccable character (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9). Why is this so important?

5. Read 1 Peter 5:1-3. What commands are given to the elders? What does Peter mean by "not overseeing out of compulsion"? What does he mean by "not lording it over those entrusted to you"?
6. 1 Peter 5:1-3 exhorts pastors to be an example to the flock. How has the example of the a pastor or other mature Christians impacted you?
7. Did you know that other church members are watching you? Is your example inspiring them to grow, or discouraging them?
8. The church also needs a pastor for teaching (Titus 1:9). What is something very helpful that you learned from a sermon? What can you do to get the most out of a sermon? Do you think it is important to bring your Bible and take notes in church? Explain.
9. Another reason the church needs a pastor is to guard the church from false teaching (Titus 1:9-13). What are some common false teachings threatening the church in American today? What can the pastor do to protect the church from false teaching?
10. The pastor's calling is to lead, feed, and protect the church. How can you better support your pastor?

The Last Word: If you want to have a healthy spiritual life, then plug into the church (don't be a lone-ranger Christian; a solo Christian), and place yourself under the leadership of a godly pastor.