

1 Timothy 3 (part 1)

Guard the church's leadership (v1-13)

- It's good to be a church leader (v1,13)
- It's right to choose carefully (v2a,10)
- Good leaders combat false teaching:
 - Correction of faults (e.g. money, quarrelling, marriage)
 - Protection from accusations (e.g. drink)
 - Good example to church (e.g. hospitality)
 - Good witness to outsiders (v7)
- Apostle-led leadership (v14-15)

Guard the church's identity (v14-16)

- God's earthly family (v15)
- God's earthly dwelling (v15)
- God's earthly billboard (v15-16)
 - God's King revealed
 - God's King witnessed
 - God's King acknowledged

Discussion questions

- Do you aspire to be involved in some kind of church leadership? What encourages you? What puts you off?
- How have you seen good/bad church leadership fail/succeed in 'waging the good warfare' against false teaching?
- How well do you think The Plant measures up to the picture of the church in verses 14 to 15?
