

QSBC CREOSOTE CHRONICLES

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CHOOSING OUR NEXT PASTOR

“WHEN WE PRAY, GOD HEARS MORE THAN WE SAY, ANSWERS MORE THAN WE ASK, GIVES MORE THAN WE IMAGINE, IN HIS OWN TIME AND IN HIS OWN WAY.”

What characteristics, skills and personality traits would you like to see in our next pastor? What should our next pastor be like?

“He should be a good preacher.”

“He should be older (younger, middle-aged) to meet the needs of the congregation.”

“I want a pastor who will visit the sick and all of the members of the church.”

“The man we choose should be a very good administrator. After all, we are a large church and have many irons in the fire.”

“I EXPECT THIS GUY TO BE EASY-GOING, A LEADER, A GOOD EXAMPLE, AND ONE WHO ISN'T PRONE TO LONG PRAYERS.”

Looks like in our minds the next pastor of Quartzsite Southern Baptist Church should closely resemble Billy Graham or Jesus Christ Himself! That's highly unlikely – I mean, why would anyone that dynamic choose to live in Quartzsite, Arizona?

Quartzsite Temperatures October 2017

Ok Snowbirds, you can come back now! The days are shorter, the nights cooling off way down to the 60s, and daytime temps are in the 80s & 90s.

What does the Bible tell us God looks for in a good Christian leader?

First and Second Timothy are full of instructions to a new pastor, Timothy, from Paul, the Apostle. In addition to the very familiar list of character traits listed in I Timothy 3: 1-12, Paul gives many pieces of godly advice to Timothy in his position as pastor of a church.

To review, I Timothy 3 states that elders and deacons, overseers (or any leader of a church body for that matter), should demonstrate these qualities:

- Above reproach
- Married to one woman
- Temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable
- A good teacher
- Doesn't get drunk
- Non-violent, not quarrelsome, doesn't "love" money
- Manages his own family well, and has obedient, respectful children
- Not a new Christian (recent convert)
- Has a good reputation not only with other Christians but also with non-Christians.

That list alone is daunting but that's not all God has to say about being a leader in His Body – the Church.

Read I Tim 3:14, 4:7, 4:10-11, 4:13 and 6:20 where Paul concludes: 'Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care.'

(Con't on page 2)

There's a story about a rural pastor who proposed to his church that they buy a chandelier. One of the church members objected because, he said, "There are 3 reasons: 1. We don't have enough money; 2. nobody can play it, and 3. what this church really needs is lights!"

In 2 Timothy we see an attribute that many church members are completely ignorant of.

In 2 Timothy 2:1-2: "You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses, **entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.**" Oh Ho! It sounds like that means the pastor is to teach, instruct, show, and encourage us to do the same ministries he does!!

In fact, another verse in Ephesians 2:10 clarifies that: "For we are God's workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.**"

2 Timothy 3:16 tells us: "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, **so that the man (also woman) of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**"

You see, Ephesians 4:11-12 states: "It was He (God) who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists and some to be pastors and teachers, **to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up** ".

In conclusion, it appears we really need to be searching and praying for a pastor who will not do everything **for us** but who will prepare us in every way to minister God's grace to every person we come in contact with.

It can be very comforting to hire someone to get the work done. We pay him, he's trained and qualified, except that is not what Scripture tells us God wants a pastor to do. In fact, his job is to get us trained up so that instead of one man ministering the grace of God, the whole congregation of 150-200 people can be busy ministering the grace of God to mankind.

GOD SAID NO!!

I asked God to take away my habit. God said, No, it is not for me to take away, but for you to give it up.

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole. God said, No, his spirit is whole, his body is only temporary.

I asked God to grant me patience. God said, No, patience is a byproduct of tribulations. It isn't granted. It is learned.

I asked God to give me happiness. God said, No, I give you blessings. Happiness is up to you.

I asked God to spare me pain. God said, No, suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to Me.

I asked God to make my spirit grow. God said, No, you must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful.

I asked God for all things that I might enjoy life. God said, No, I will give you life, so that you may enjoy all things.

I asked God to help me LOVE others as much as He loves me. God said...Ahhhh! Finally you have the idea. (contributed by Lois Goin)

PUMPKIN CRISP

1 - 16 oz. can of pumpkin 1 ½ c. gran. sugar
1 tsp. cinnamon ½ tsp. ginger
¼ tsp. cloves 1 tsp. salt
1 - 12 oz. can evaporated milk 4 beaten eggs

Mix together all ingredients above and pour into a greased 9 x 13" cake pan.

1 box dry yellow cake mix
1 c. pecans or walnuts, chopped
2 sticks of butter

Sprinkle dry yellow cake mix and nuts on top of pumpkin mix. Slice butter and place on top of cake mix.

Bake at 350 degrees for 50 minutes or until brown. Cool, cut, and top with cool whip. Serves 12-15

(A favorite dessert served to the workers during QSBC revivals in the winter)