

What I Want in a Preacher

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I. Introduction.

- A. The influence of pastors are waning because they are not taking strong tasks.
- B. People are looking for men who speak with the voice of authority saying “thus sayeth the Lord.”

II. A pastor must...

- A. Be born again.
- B. Be called of God, eager about gospel and a cross bearer. (Colossians 3:23; Luke 9:23)
- C. Be a man of the Word of God who preaches the Word and is in it. (2 Timothy 3:16-27; Proverbs 30:5; Ezekiel 3:10-11; Mark 4:34; 1 Corinthians 14:8)
- D. Be a man of prayer.
- E. Be real.
- F. Have a vision or the whole church. (1 Corinthians 12:25)
- G. Be a man of courage and not overly ambitious.
 - 1. Courageous enough to preach he truth and lets the chips fall where they may. (1 Thessalonians 2:4)
 - 2. Courageous enough to measure his ministry by people and not by budgets and buildings, to be loving and to take a stand. (John 16:33; 2 Timothy 3:12)
- H. Be flexible on policies and principles and strong on what is central. (1 Corinthians 9:23)
- I. Be a real shepherd. (1 Peter 5)
 - 1. He should have a servant’s heart. (Mark 10:45)
 - 2. He should not be a dictator.
 - 3. He should have a sense that he is a gift for God equipping others to use their gifts. (Ephesians 4:11)
- J. Have a clear picture of the gospel that changes lives. (Romans 1:16; Mark 7:21-22; Titus 1:1-2; Colossians 1:6)
- K. Not be threatened by spiritually qualified growing laymen. (2 Corinthians 13:7-9)
- L. Understand the principle of multiplication.

M. Glorify Jesus and not himself.

N. Be teachable. (Proverbs 10:8, 17; Romans 12:16)

O. Be someone people can look up to and follow. (Philippians 4:9; 1 Corinthians 11:1)

P. Be someone who realizes the battle is on. (1 Peter 5; Ephesians 6)

III. Conclusion.

Application questions:

1. Which of the three qualifications for an excellent pastor do you think are most important?

2. What are some things that disqualify a pastor altogether?

3. How can we ensure that our communities have effective leaders? How can we prepare to become better pastors? Explain.
