

Seventeen Things in a Pastor's Life

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I. Introduction.

A. 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. (John 3:3; 1 Corinthians 3:11)

B. Be pumped up for the gospel. (Jeremiah 20:9; Colossians 3:23)

C. Be a cross bearer. (Luke 9:23)

D. Be a man of the Word of God. (2 Timothy 3:16-27; 2 Peter 1:21; Proverbs 30:5)

E. Be in the Word of God. (Ezekiel 3:10-11; Mark 4:34; 1 Corinthians 14:8)

F. Be able to expound the Scriptures.

G. Be a man of prayer.

H. Be real.

I. Have a vision or the whole church.

J. Be a man of courage and not overly ambitious. (Psalm 75:6-7; 1 Peter 5:5-6)

K. Be one who preaches the truth and lets the chips fall where they may. (1 Thessalonians 2:4)

L. Be 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)

M. Be flexible on policies and principles and strong on what is central.

N. Not be self-seeking.

O. Give himself to the ministry of the Word and prayer. (Acts 6)

P. Be more interested in what God says and not what people think. (John 5:44)

Q. Be a real shepherd. (1 Peter 5)

R. Have a servant's heart. (Matthew 20:26-27; Mark 10:45)

S. Not be a dictator.

T. Have a sense that he is a gift for God equipping others to use their gifts. (Ephesians 4:11)

U. Have a clear picture of the gospel that changes lives. (Romans 1:16; Mark 7:21-22; Titus 1:1-2; Colossians 1:6)

V. Not be threatened by spiritually qualified growing laymen.

W. Understand the principle of multiplication.

X. Glorify Jesus and not himself. (2 Corinthians 4:5)

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

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

AA. Be someone who realizes the battle is on.

III. Conclusion. (Jeremiah 3:15; Ephesians 1:8)

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.
