

What Laymen Want in Their Pastors

Gene Warr

I. Introduction.

A. People are looking for men who speak with the voice of authority saying “thus sayeth the Lord.”

II. Pastors must...

A. Be born again.

B. Called of God. (Colossians 3:23)

C. A man of the Word of God and a man of conviction. (Proverbs 30:5; Ezekiel 3:10-11; Mark 4:34; 1 Corinthians 14:8)

D. A man of prayer.

E. Real.

F. Have a vision or the whole church. (1 Corinthians 12:25)

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

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

I. Be courageous enough to measure his ministry by people and not by budgets and buildings, to be loving, to take a stand and to differentiate between what is central and what is not. (Acts 6)

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

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

L. Have a servant's heart. (Matthew 20; Mark 10:45)

M. Not be a dictator.

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

O. Have a clear picture of the gospel. (Romans 1:16; Titus 1:1-2; Colossians 1:6)

P. Not be threatened by spiritually qualified growing laymen.

Q. Understand the principle of multiplication.

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

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

T. Be someone people can look up to and follow. (1 Corinthians 11:1)

U. Be someone who realizes the battle is on and is a leader in the cold war.

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.
