

The reason I left you in Crete was that you might put in order what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you.

Titus 1:5ff ESV



BEREAN BIBLE CHURCH

Worship Service & Communion

Sunday, 7 April, 2024

Worship Services In-person & Online 10:40am & 6pm

 <https://www.youtube.com/user/bereanbarbados/live>

 <https://www.facebook.com/BereanBarbados/live>

Sunday School In-person 9:30 - 10:15am

 **ZOOM** links provided

Midweek In-person & Online Service (Wednesday)

Noon & 7:30 pm | ZOOM links provided

Youth Service in-person 7pm (Friday)

 **WhatsApp** 845 - 5752 or Tel: 426 - 4707

email: info@bereanbarbados.org

www.bereanbarbados.org

What Does It Mean to Be “Qualified” for Ministry?

Bobby Scott

In 1 Timothy 3:1-6 and in Titus 1:5-9, God requires that pastors conform to an uncompromising, holy standard. When it comes to being qualified for this sacred and high calling, it's easy to say with Paul, “Who is adequate for these things?” (2 Cor. 2:16). The resounding answer is “No one!”— That is, no one apart from God's enabling grace. Paul clarifies, “Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a new covenant” (2 Cor. 3:5-6). Therefore, by God's grace all shepherds can and must meet these qualifications.

The rest of this article will define God's qualifications for pastoral ministry, explain the process of raising up men to meet these standards, and then consider why pastors must live by these standards for the spiritual health of the church.

What are the biblical qualifications for a pastor?

Except for the ability to teach, every pastoral qualification focuses on character. These qualifications are not snapshots of a man's life but characteristics—consistent patterns of his life.

The qualifications in 1 Timothy 3:1-6 and Titus 1:5-9 tell the story of a godly leader. What is he like in his home? Is he a one-woman man? Does he have the skill to lead relationally? If not, then he cannot lead the church. What is his reputation with unbelievers on his job and in his community? He must be godly Monday through Saturday, not just religious on Sunday. Is he a bully, or is he loving and kind?

Of course, no one aspiring to be a pastor should declare himself qualified. The church must assess and affirm his character. Without the evidence of these grace-produced qualities in his life, the church must not affirm that a man is fit for this sacred office. Charisma and talent cannot be used as criteria to supplant character and faithfulness.

How can men become qualified?

God calls leaders (1 Tim. 3:1) and gifts the church with them (Eph. 4:11). But before they serve, they must be equipped. Jesus called the twelve and sent

them out to preach, but not until he first spent time with them to train them (Mark 3:13–14).

Seminaries may provide wonderful training opportunities, but pastors ultimately learn to pastor from other pastors. Paul saw God's grace in young Timothy, so he mentored him (Acts 16:3), demonstrating the grace-produced character of a qualified life (2 Tim. 3:11–12). Men must be shown what it means to be godly leaders. Therefore, pastors must use Paul's list in 1 Timothy 3:1–6 as a discipling guide to prepare men for ministry. Conversely, pastors must use Paul's list in Titus to keep unqualified men away from the pastorate. The bottom line is that every man who serves the church as a pastor must live a life characterized by Paul's list of qualifications.

Why must churches require that their pastors meet Paul's list of qualifications?

Well, the simple answer is because God says so. God speaks through his Word, and his Word says that pastors must be men who meet these standards.

Furthermore, the church is God's. He purchased it with his own blood (Acts 20:28), so God sets the standard for who leads it. The command *must* be the leading verb throughout the list of qualifications. God didn't leave the pastor's job description for churches to determine. He wrote them himself, and they are non-negotiable. The man of God *must* be blameless. His life *must* be free from legitimate scandal and positively conform to the qualifications set by God. Where leaders lead, people follow. Leaders therefore *must* be blameless because God desires blamelessness of all of his people (Phil. 2:15).

Through his death and resurrection Jesus reconciles rebels to live in a holy, loving union with the Father. Christ raises up leaders and gives them as gifts to the church to show believers how to do that (Phil. 3:17)—how to live holy lives that please their holy God.

My dearly beloved pastors, it matters how we live. May the measureless love of our Father, who gave us his holy Son to save us from our sin, fill our hearts so that we delight in pursuing holiness. In the end, people will be like their leaders, and Jesus died to make his people, his bride, holy. Therefore, let every church say "amen," and let every true church pray for and raise up godly pastors whose lives adorn the gospel of grace. In our tumultuous times of dark distress, may our churches radiate with the brilliance of the glory of his grace, that we might all appear as lights of Christ's saving and sanctifying power.

Sunday Morning Service

Sunday, April 7th, 2024

Berean 2024 Theme:	Share the Word; Make Disciples
Berean 2024 Theme Verse:	Matthew 28:19-20
Service Theme:	Law and Gospel
Song Leader:	Pastor Paul Garnes
Preacher:	Pastor Paul Garnes

- i. Welcome (Pastor Paul Garnes)
- ii. Announcements (Esther Lord-Graham)
- iii. Right Hand of Fellowship (Pastor Paul Garnes)

1. Meditation (Deacon Tyrone Lowe)
2. Scriptural Call to Worship (Deacon Tyrone Lowe)
3. Prayer of Adoration and Invocation (Deacon Tyrone Lowe)
- 4. Congregational Hymn: LH #800 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (DIADEM)**
- 5. Congregational Song: Come Thou Fount (Above All Else)**
6. Prayer of Confession (Richard Pierce)
7. Scriptural Assurance of Pardon (Richard Pierce)
- 8. Song: HG #368 Speak, O, Lord**
- 9. Song: Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)**
10. OT Scripture Reading: Genesis 23 (Malivia Garnes)
11. NT Scripture Reading: Matthew 23 (Sean Hunte)
12. The Berean Choir
13. Prayer of Thanksgiving and Offertory Prayer (Gilbert Duke)
- 14. Offertory Hymn: LH #624 Count Your Blessings**
15. Pastoral/Intercessory Prayer (Elon Richards)
- 16. Congregational Hymn: LH #534 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus**
17. Sermon: Acts 21:17-26 (Pastor Paul Garnes)
- 18. Hymn: HG #343 The Communion Hymn**
19. Communion (Pastor Paul Garnes)
20. Closing Prayer and Benediction (Christopher Boyce)

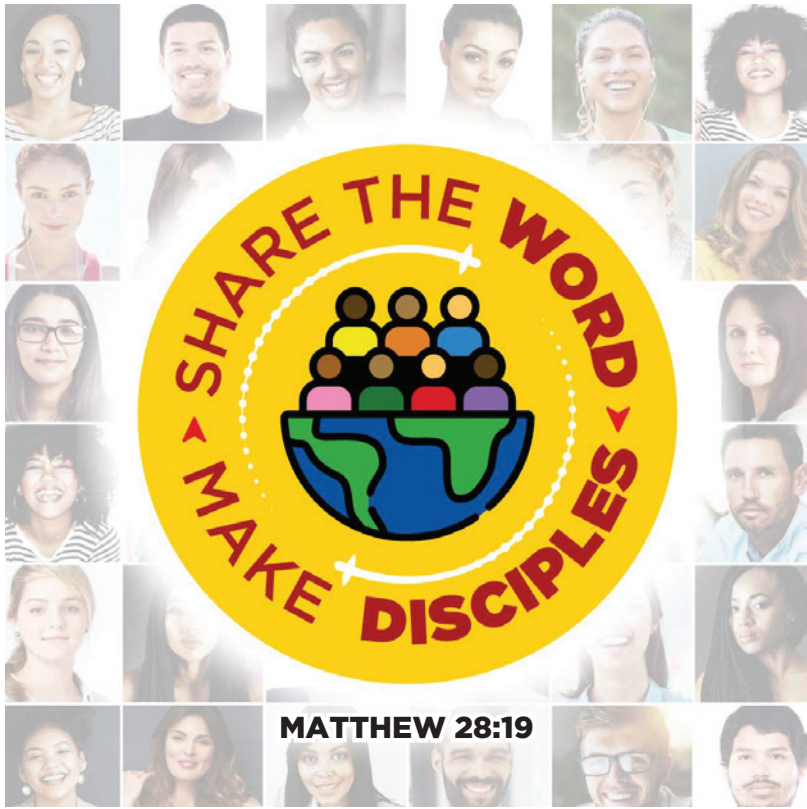
Sunday Evening Service

Sunday, April 7th, 2024

Berean 2024 Theme:	Share the Word; Make Disciples
Berean 2024 Theme Verse:	Matthew 28:19-20
Service Theme:	Marriage and Family
Song Leader:	TBC
Preacher:	Pastor Paul Garnes

- i. Welcome
- ii. Announcements

1. Meditation
2. Scriptural Call to Worship
3. Prayer of Adoration and Invocation
- 4. Congregational Song: LH #8 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee**
5. Prayer of Confession
6. Scriptural Assurance of Pardon
- 7. Song: LH #186 And Can it Be**
8. OT Scripture Reading: Genesis 24:1-67
9. NT Scripture Reading: Matthew 24:1-51
10. Prayer of Thanksgiving and Offertory Prayer
- 11. Song: LH #849 Be Thou My Vision (SLANE)**
12. Pastoral/Intercessory Prayer
- 13. Congregational Hymn: LH #45 Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer**
14. Sermon: EPHESIANS: Biblical Love in Marriage (Text: Various)
- 15. Congregational Song: LH #576 Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us**
16. Closing Prayer and Benediction



ITEMS FOR PRAYER

- To share the Word & make disciples. Grenada and DR Congo.
- For Sandra as she mourns and for healing
- Pray for the ministry and wellbeing of our Pastor and family.
- For healing for our sick members.
- For grace for our shut-in members.
- For the Berean Church, Dominica,
- For the friends of Berean - The Gilmours, Haecks, Hulls, Moores, Montagues, Porchers, Rogers, Rudders and Taylors.
- For our unemployed members to find meaningful employment.
- For the peace of Jerusalem.

April Birthdays

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 4 - Anita Eastmond | 22 - Joy-Ann Beckles | 24 - Susan Greenidge |
| 8 - Signe Watson | - Tanya Lowe | 26 - Marcia Mayers |
| 12 - Matthew Bovell | 23 - Chirlene Black | 27 - Marlene Skinner |
| - Patricia Scott | - Dazil Blackman | 29 - Kevin Gaskin |
| 15 - Kenny St. Cyr | - Wendy Jones | - Jamar Watts |

Anniversaries

18 - Ricardo & Julia Licorish