

# First Baptist Church of Boardman Elder Qualifications

An elder must watch over the flock. He must instruct all the sheep, strengthen the weak ones, guard the vulnerable ones, rebuke the obstinate ones, and bear with the difficult ones (2 Tim. 2:24-25; Acts 20:28; 1 Thess. 5:14). An elder watches over the members of his church as one who will give an account to God. An Elder is an older, wise man, part of the ruling body of decision makers invested with authority by virtue of their age, character, or experience. (1 Timothy 3: 1-7 & Titus 1: 6-9)

- Must be a man whose life cannot be spoken against and must live a blameless life because he is God's minister, one with a steadfast belief in the trustworthy message he was taught so that he may be able to encourage others with right teaching.

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- He must be faithful to his wife, manage his own family well, with children who respect and obey him, not wild and rebellious.

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- He must exhibit self-control, live wisely, be fair, and have good reputation.

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- He must live a devout and disciplined life, not be arrogant or quick tempered.

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- He must enjoy having guests in his home and must be able to teach.

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- He must not be a heavy drinker or be violent

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- He must be gentle, peace loving, and not one who loves money.

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- An Elder must not be a new Christian, because he might be proud of being chosen so soon.

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- People outside the church must speak well of so that he will not fall into the devil's trap and be disgraced.

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