

## **2020 NOMINATIONS**

*By Pastor Steve for 3/8/2020*

It is once again time for us to look among the members of Calvary Christian Church to determine if there may be men whom God has raised up to serve as either elders or deacons.

The elders and deacons of the church work closely with

our teaching pastors to promote the spiritual growth of the membership and to plan direction for the local church. So, we seek godly men who demonstrate commitment to Christ, to their families, and to this church.

Remember that this is not a popularity contest. It is not a quest for the particularly handsome, skilled, or agile. Neither is one qualified to serve as a leader in the church just because they might be “a nice guy” or “really cool” or “a jack of all trades.”

The apostle Peter uses a “shepherd image” to illustrate that elders are to feed and watch over God’s flock, providing proper examples as they teach and lead. James says they are also to minister to the sick and the emotionally or spiritually wounded.

The apostle Paul insists that elders and deacons are to be grounded in the truth and serve the Lord and His church faithfully. They must be men who have proven they can be trusted with the responsibilities of both church and family.

That’s why we are looking for men of prayer and of action; men who are compassionate and caring; men who are grounded in faith and motivated by love. They won’t be perfect, but they will trust in the One Who is – and strive to become like Him.

With all this in mind, it may seem that no one could qualify. Who could possibly measure up to such high standards? Without divine help, I don’t believe anyone could. But by God’s grace, such men do exist.

We are particularly blessed with the elders and deacons whom presently serve here at Calvary Christian Church. Yet, we must be open to the possibility that God may have others who He wishes to join them.

So, let us not overlook those whom the Lord would have us to recognize and ordain. Let us also not forget to encourage those who may potentially grow into the kind of men God will one day call to serve in this capacity. Yet, let us not feel pressured to nominate any one just to fill a position – or to accept a nomination for which we are not equipped.

In today’s bulletin, you can find the characteristics listed in Scripture for elders and deacons as well as the requirements for elders and deacons as stated in our bylaws. Please consider all of these very carefully.

We urge you to approach any one whom you believe would be qualified and ask them if they would be willing to serve if appointed. If they answer in the affirmative, present their name(s) to a member of our Nominating Committee.

We urge every member of Calvary Christian Church to be involved in this process. May God’s choices for His shepherd and servant leaders be evident to us all.

**See 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:2-3; James 5:14; 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:6-9**

