

# Cedarcreek Community Church

## Pastor Track

Ordination as a Pastor at Cedarcreek is a function of character, need and desire (or calling.) As the need for more Pastors presents itself, the existing Pastors will look for men who desire to serve and who have shown consistent character as outlined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:3-9. The following are activities a man can participate in to build character and skills, and to demonstrate the willingness to serve in the church.

### **Manage Home**

The home is a microcosm of the church. Building relationships, serving, winning, discipling and leading others toward a goal all can and should happen in the home. The spiritual condition of a man's family is a reflection of his spiritual leadership. The home must also be a source of strength and rest for an Pastor. If there is strife and disunity in the home, it adversely affects a man's ability to serve in the church.

### **Quality Employee**

A Pastor must have a good reputation with those outside the church. Our work and our relationship with a secular marketplace employer and fellow employees is a training ground for becoming a Pastor. A Pastor must be humble and respond to authorities and peers. Diligence, honesty and integrity are qualities that can be developed in a work environment, and that are crucial for the job of a Pastor.

### **Church Ministry**

Ministry is an honor as opposed to a right. It is a service of love rather than a job. If a man is unwilling to work hard in the church without position, recognition or pay, he is unworthy to be a Pastor. Taking the responsibility for ministry within the church gives a man the opportunity to grow in skills and character. Ministry responsibility can and should grow, starting with participation in a ministry, to helping lead and coordinate the ministry, to taking responsibility to lead a group of people in a church-wide ministry. Appointment as a Deacon (see Deacon Position Paper) may be a natural step in the process of becoming and Pastor, although it is not required.

### **GCLI**

Great Commission Leadership Institute (GCLI) is our church association's formal doctrinal teaching tool. This two year program is taught by the Pastors, and gives a man a thorough understanding of what we believe and why. This is critical to ensure that all Pastors are 'on the same page' doctrinally. A Pastor must be united in heart and mind with our great association.

### **Mentoring with Pastor**

A man who desires to become a Pastor can initiate with one of the Pastors to develop a one-on-one mentoring/discipling relationship. This allows a man to see the life of a Pastor, and have specific strength and weakness identified and prayed for. Mentoring will be dependent on the availability of the Pastors. Seeking and taking advice and direction shows an aspiration for greater character and responsibility, both of which are necessary for a man to become a Pastor.

### **Apprenticeship**

One of the best ways to learn a job is to do the job. As a man moves toward being appointed as a Pastor, he will be given opportunities to function 'pastorally'. This could include teaching at weekly meetings, counseling with members of the congregation, working in plurality with other men to make decisions regarding the church, etc.