

People of Good Reputation

Introduction

Acts 6:3 Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business

1. **God's church, His service, requires "special, qualified people".**

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light

2. **The problems in the early church required special people with special qualities, working together with other special qualified people, to correct the situation.**

3. **The success of God's church, in any location and in all circumstances, requires "special qualified people."**

A. EVERY CHRISTIAN must aspire to a higher level of excellence!

Seeking Qualified People for God

1. **Solomon wrote about how important a "good name" is.**

Proverbs 22:1 A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, Loving favor rather than silver and gold.

Ecclesiastes 7:1 A good name is better than precious ointment, And the day of death than the day of one's birth

2. **Let's look at some ways that an individual can gain a good name and be the kind of Christian God wants them to be:**

A. **RIGHTEOUS - In The Ways Of God**

Matthew 13:43 Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

Matthew 6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

B. **EDIFY - We should strive to build up rather than to tear down**

1 Thessalonians 5:11 Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

C. **PERSEVERE - In Spiritual Growth
2 Peter 1:5-11****D. **UNITED** - With Brethren In The Things Of God
Ephesians 4:1-6****E. **TRY** - To Develop, To Be Involved, To Help**

Ephesians 4:16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

F. **ABSTAIN - From Situations That Can Lead To Sin**

1 Thessalonians 5:21-22 Test all things; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.

1 Corinthians 15:33 Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits."

- G. **TONGUE** - Watch Your Tongue
James 3:1-13
- H. **INNOCENT** - Remain Pure From Sin, Always Repentant
1 John 1:6-2:2
- I. **OBEDIENT** - Continual Submission To God/Commands
1 John 2:3-5
- J. **NOW** - Be A "NOW" Person, Not A Procrastinator

Hebrews 3:13 but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

Conclusion

1. **God is looking for individuals that have acquired a good reputation - these are His "special people".**
2. **Are YOU that "special person" God is looking for?**
3. **YOU can develop that "good reputation" by becoming a child of God.**
 - A. **Then you can grow in your spirituality and let God's spirit fill your life.**
4. **Yes it is true: "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold." (Proverbs 22:1)**

