

When you pick your pastor, do not choose a man based upon his...

Eloquence or personal opinions, but one who boldly preaches the whole counsel of God. (1)

Intelligence or personal agenda, but one who is determined to make the ministry of Jesus Christ primary. (2)

Confidence, but one who is courageously dependent upon the Holy Spirit. (3-4)

Personality, but one who challenges you to take steps of faith with God. (5)

Questions for Discussion:

Have you been part of a church where the preaching of the Word of God was not central?
If so, what was central? Why do you think that was central?

Are there ways your opinions about certain matters not central to the gospel are central in your life?
What would it look like for you to move the gospel of Jesus Christ to a central place?

How can we be serious about having a passion for God's Word without becoming "puffed up" over it?

What sort of personal agendas have you seen eclipse the ministry of Jesus Christ in a church?

Are there ways you have contributed personally to such agendas?

Do you know people who have left their church because of truth the pastor taught?

If so, what was the truth that was taught?

What are other subjects from the Bible you know of that people choose to reject?

Are you willing to listen to what God says on those subjects?

Are there non-Christians in your life who intimidate you?

If so, what is it about them that is intimidating to you?

What would it look like for you to be overcome intimidation by relying on the Holy Spirit?

Do you know of people whose object of faith is something or someone other than Christ and His Word?

Who or what is it? How can you tell?

Is your faith resting on Christ and His Word? If not, resolve to shift your faith today.