

## **Elder Recommendation Form**

For January 1 to February 31, 2005

### ***Scripture gives qualifications in I Timothy 3:1-7***

Here is a trustworthy saying: If anyone sets his heart on being an overseer, he desires a noble task. <sup>2</sup>Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, <sup>3</sup>not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. <sup>4</sup>He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. <sup>5</sup>(If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) <sup>6</sup>He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. <sup>7</sup>He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

### ***The Constitution says of the qualifications***

“The Elders are the chosen representatives of the congregation and govern, discipline, and oversee the spiritual interests of this church. According to I Timothy 3:1-7, the Office of Elder shall be occupied by men of maturity, exemplary lives, good reputation, sound judgment, and who rule their own house well. A candidate for Elder must be a member of this church for at least a year prior to his nomination for this office.

### ***The Constitution says of the duties***

The responsibilities of the Board of Elders include: (1) Directing the affairs of the church. (2) Receiving and dismissing members. (3) Administering the ordinances. (4) All organizations and their programs. (5) Making provision for the pulpit supply. (6) Exercising discipline. (7) Praying for and with the people and watching over their spiritual and physical needs. (8) Visiting the membership, giving counsel and comfort to those with special needs. (9) Promoting missions at home and abroad. (10) Executing on behalf of the church, deeds, notes, deeds of trust, releases, and any other instruments of contracts as may be necessary to comply with the mandate of the congregation as to real property belonging to, or being acquired, improved or sold by the church. (11) Being responsive to all other matters that affect the well being of this church.

### ***The Constitution says of the man***

“A candidate for nomination to the office of Elder will be examined by at least two current Elders to determine: (1) His personal knowledge and comprehension of the Word of God especially as it relates to the qualifications for an Elder. (2) His personal philosophy concerning the purpose of the local church, his understanding of his responsibilities as a Christian and as an officer of the church, and his concept of the role of Christian education in the church. (3) His agreement with the constitution of this church including the doctrinal statement. (4) His ability and willingness to serve and participate actively as an Elder, to attend faithfully the services and programs of the church, and to support the various programs and activities of the church. (5) His ability to teach and his desire to cultivate this ability for the Lord.

*over*

## **The Process**

- ◆ Ongoing process—The Board frequently updates the “Church Leaders List,” a list containing men that are being discipled and mentored by existing elders, past elders and other church leaders. These are men that the Board sees as current and future leaders in the church.
- ◆ January—The Congregation is asked for names of biblically qualified men who are committed to the church’s vision statement and doing ministry at Northwest. Names from the Congregation are examined and may be added to the “Church Leaders List.”
- ◆ February & March—The Board prays through list of leaders, selecting nominees. Elders approach the nominees, asking them to spend significant time prayerfully considering the possibility of becoming an Elder. The men are given full access to our pastors, to learn of the church vision and spiritual direction of the church, as well as structure, policies and procedures.
- ◆ April & May—The Board hears back from the nominees. The nominees begin to attend Elder meetings as non-voting nominees. This gives them experience and a “running start” at the nature and role of the Elders. The nominees and Board have an annual Elders retreat for instruction, fellowship and worship.
- ◆ June—The nominees are presented to the Congregation in the Call Letter, the Town Hall Meeting and other meetings as may be possible. The Congregation has the opportunity to endorse all the Elders at the Annual Meeting.
- ◆ July—All Elders are installed on the first or second Sunday in July. At the first Board meeting of the fiscal year, the Board selects a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and a Treasurer.

## **Your Recommendation**

I \_\_\_\_\_,

*as a member of Northwest Bible Church, in accord with Scripture and the church Constitution,*

*after prayerful consideration for God’s direction for this church,*

*recommend \_\_\_\_\_,*

*a man who meets the biblical qualifications, is active in a ministry of our church, and is in accord*

*with the church vision statement.*

- ◆ E-mail your recommendation to David Fletcher, [drfletcher@nbctexas.org](mailto:drfletcher@nbctexas.org)
- ◆ Fax a completed form to the pastoral office, (214) 987-2923
- ◆ Place a completed form the box in the foyer of the worship center or church office

Nominations must be received in the Pastoral Office by January 31, 2005

Recommend more men in the space below: