

GROWTH GROUP GUIDE

Leading God's People

This week we're hosting Doug and Marike Wannenburg for a very special purpose. It's so they and we can prayerfully consider the possibility of appointing Doug to the ministry team. But as we do that, it's worth asking *what are we meant to be looking for?*

As Paul neared the end of his life, he wrote to his ministry apprentices Timothy and Titus. He needed them to raise up new Christian leaders after themselves just as Paul had raised up Timothy and Titus after himself. Paul gives them both clear guidance on *what to look for in prospective leaders...* and it might be an opportune time for us to listen in!

Read 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:1-9

1. List the qualifications a Christian leader should have...

1 Timothy 3:1-7

Titus 1:1-9

2. What's distinctive to the 1 Timothy list?
3. What's distinctive to the Titus list?
4. What's emphasised in *both* lists?
5. Ideally, should these things be true of leaders only, or of us all?
6. Why do you think these would be the *essential* qualifications for a Christian *leader*?
7. Read the information about Doug and his family. As you do, think about and then talk about: What evidence is there that Doug is the kind of leader we should be looking for?

8. Doug has already been through lots of in-depth interviews, with our elders, the Brisbane Presbytery, and the national Reception of Ministers Committees, and so far everyone has been very positive. What about you? How are you personally feeling about the prospect of Doug coming on board for our church?
9. What should we be praying for Doug and his family as they consider this move? What should we be praying for our church? Pray about these things together now.

MEET THE WANNENBURGHS



Hopefully, you've had the chance to say hi to Doug and Marike over the weekend. Doug will also be preaching next Sunday, August 27th. A formal Congregational meeting will be held between services to vote on the appointment. Here's a reminder of some background material...

Doug and Marike Wannenburg and their four kids Kyle, Luke, Lara and Douglas, live in Stellenbosch, just out of Cape Town, in South Africa. Doug is the Senior Pastor of Christchurch Stellenbosch, a large church that originally focused on ministering to the university students of the town. Famed for its wineries and universities, Stellenbosch is something like a bigger (and more beautiful) version of Armidale in northern NSW. Doug was originally responsible for the evening student ministry, but was appointed as Senior Pastor in 2010.

Doug says he enjoys reading, painting, football and cheesecake.

Doug is highly regarded as a preacher both in South Africa and here in Australia. He has also played a key role in establishing a youth camping and leadership training networks across South Africa, which have influenced a generation of young Christian leaders.

Christchurch is part of the Reformed Evangelical Anglican Church of South Africa, a denomination that shares our distinctive focus on the 'main thing' of the gospel. Doug can be received as a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia through the Reception of Ministers Committee who interviewed him on Friday. The transfer of ordination usually requires completion of a few 'background' subjects at QTC over a couple of years. The Wannenburg family would initially move to Australia on a two year 408-visa, and apply for permanent residency as soon as possible.