It's one thing to identify something great. But what made it great?
B.L.U.F. (Bottom Line Up Front) – *An effective church has effective leaders.*

1. N_____ for Godly Leadership

"Everything rises and falls on leadership." – Pastor Lee Roberson

We learned this morning in Pastor Chris' message that the missionary church-planting team was characterized by:

- Boldness in preaching the Word of God
- Genuineness in their ministry of the Word of God
- Love in their bringing the Word of God to the people

What was the conclusion the people came to? 1 Thessalonians 2:13! Therefore, the church members became imitators of them. 1 Thessalonians 1:6; 1 Corinthians 4:16; 11:1; Philippians 3:17

2. A_____ of Godly Leadership

Pastors are not novices (1 Timothy 3:6) but men proven by God (1 Thessalonians 2:4).

1) God's Approval – 1 Thessalonians 2:4
   - ⇨ Paul – developed for 10+ years (Barnabas)
   - ⇨ Silas – Acts 15:22, a "chief man" before ministry
   - ⇨ Timothy – Acts 16:1-2, testimony widely known

2) Approval's Focus – Handling the Word of God
   1 Timothy 3:2; 2 Timothy 2:15; 4:1-4; Titus 1:9-2:1; Acts 20:28-32; 1 Thessalonians 2:13

Follow an "Approved by God" Pastor