



## A LOOK AT CHURCH LEADERS (PART 2): QUALIFICATIONS OF DEACONS

1 Timothy 3:8-13

Sunday, July 25, 2021  
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Good morning Church. Dave Mathis in his article, "Who Governs The Local Church", says, ***"The healthiest dynamic in the local church, where the leaders don't presume obedience, but seek to persuade the people from the heart, and the people aren't just willing, but eager, to be persuaded by their pastors."*** Paul shares with Timothy the structure of the church and more directly, the personal qualities of those in who would serve in these leadership positions, rather than their leadership duties.

*At least one way for a person to attain the role of elder or deacon was to:*

- Aspire to it
- Live in a way that gives no cause for others to think badly of the church, or the faith, or the Lord
- Emphasis on what a person's reputation is and how others see them

*The two ongoing offices of the Church are:*

- **Elders** — responsible for oversight of the entire congregation, teaching, and what the church is being spiritually fed, shepherding, leading and protecting in this way
- **Deacons** — aid the unity of the church, physical matters of the church, aid and assisting the elders of the church

### 1 Timothy 3:8-13

*"Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. **9** They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. **10** And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. **11** Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. **12** Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. **13** For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus."*

## *The Qualities of a Deacon...*

1. **DEACON** — a person who is called to serve the Church & assists the Pastor in the ministry
2. **REVERENT & Not DOUBLE-Tongued (v. 8)** — acting serious about important matters & honest
3. **Not a DRUNKARD or GREEDY (v. 8)** — sensible; not preoccupied with alcohol or money
4. **COMMITTED To The Mystery of Faith (v. 9)** — understand sound teaching of the Word
5. **Being TESTED and BLAMELESS (v. 10)** — prayerfully seek men who are already serving  
*“Brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty.” Acts 6:3*
6. **One-WOMAN Man (v. 2, 6)** — husband of one wife; sexually pure
7. **WOMEN Deacons (v. 11)** — serving the church in a specific, non-authoritative way

*Baptist Faith and Message (2000) says,*

***“...scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.”***

The women must not be gossips, deriving and slandering others. Temperate is being faithful in character and absolutely trustworthy in all aspects of their lives and ministries. Even if our church holds to deacons as a men's only view, I would challenge us to consider how women are serving the body. I would say that many women are already serving in a deacon-like manner.

*“We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work”*

***1 Thessalonians 5:12–13***