

The Office of Deacon: Leaders in Ministry Service. 1 Tim 3:8-13

We will be taking Deacon nominations thru the week of July 12th.

Peter said that our elders are to be ENSAMPLES! 1 Peter 5:3; 1 Tim 4:12

You cannot DO what God wants you to do, until you ARE the kind of person God wants you to be.
You are disqualified for ministry if you do match the description listed in this passage.
You will never reach perfection, but you want to be “un-rebuke-able!”

I. What is a Deacon?

The word for “deacon” appears 30 times in 28 verses...in all its renderings.

Ex: John 12:26; 1 Cor 3:5; Matt 20:25-27

Deacon: diakonos “a servant”

This role applies to both male and female: Rom 16:1

That’s the exact same word that is translated as deacon. = Paul called her a Deaconess!

SEE: Our leadership is not comprised of “lords” over God’s people, but “servants” to God’s People.

Ministry principle # 6 **Our Leaders Are Servant Leaders.**

#5 reads **Our Members Engage in Ministry Service**

II. What spiritual qualifications are required in a deacon?

#1. Grave. This is the same as the first qualification for the deacon’s wife.

Grave = venerable, i.e. honorable:--grave, honest. Phil 4:8-9

Why? **The reason for the office of Deacon – Ex: Acts 6:1-3**

This is the reason that the qualifications overlap so much. The deacon is chosen out of those who are “deac-ing”, they are the extension, or right arm of the Pastor.

Deacons serve in the pastor’s place.

Notice vs 3: they are appointed “over this business.” They are administrators.

#2. 3:8 “not Double-Tongued” Ps 5:9; 52:2-3; 12:2; James 3:10; 1:8

You cannot have 2 tongues! Ex: one for Sunday and one for the rest of the week!

We need straight talkers in the office of deacon.

#3. 3:8 not given to much wine, (This was the 8th qualification of a Pastor) Prov 20:1

Our thinking must be influenced by the Holy Spirit – not chemicals! Eph 5:17-19

#4. 3:8 not greedy of filthy lucre; 1 Tim 6:10; Heb 13:5

Filthy lucre = money gotten by improper methods. 1 Sam 8:1-3

We don’t need men who are “respecters of persons” – God’s not!

We need to minister to rich and the poor, the likable and dislikable, the good, bad, and the ugly!



1 TIMOTHY – LEADERSHIP IN LOCAL CHURCH MINISTRY

The issue is not how much money or things you have. It IS all about your _____ toward the things, and the money you do or don't have.

#5. 3:9 Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. 1 Tim 3:16; Jude 1:3; 2 John 1:9-10

Well that is a given! Those who are “deac-ing” had better be _____ a _____ Gospel!

That is why Paul gives the next qualification!

#6. 3:10, be proved; (This matches the 15th Qualification of a Pastor) 1 Tim 3:6; 1 Thess 5:21

#7. 3:10 Being Found Blameless. (This was the first priority for the Pastor in vs 2) 1 Thess 5:23; Eph 1:4

Blame is when another can justly accuse you of a sinful _____.

#8. 3:11 - the Deacon's Wife! (not one of the qualifications of the deacon, but this is required of his wife)

1. she is also to be grave = honest – why?

The deacon's wife is to be an extension – a helpmeet for him in his labour. They are equally yoked!

2. not slanderers – look up at vs 6... Rev 12:10

Men can be gossips as well... **We are in the business of _____ saints in the**

Faith, not tearing one another down with _____.

3. sober, - we saw that one 4th qualification of a Pastor - sober - why? 1 Pet 5:8; Titus 2:1-8

4. faithful in all things. She must be saved – _____ of faith. Heb 11:6

9th and 10th qualifications – deal with the home life....

#9. 3:12 Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, (This was #2 for the pastor.)

God's plan – one man, one woman = one family. 1 Cor 7:1-2

In the office of deacon, we are looking for a _____ man.

#10. 3:12 ruling their children and their own houses well. (the 14th Qualification of a Pastor) 3:4-5; Titus 1:6

-God says the proving ground is in the home!

-The deacon uses his office for a way to earn a good degree (“place” or “step”)

You do not earn _____, that is _____, that was God's gift to you. Free.

However, Reward is _____. Heaven is everyone's guarantee! However, your place in Christ's Kingdom, your step or degree is earned. Mat 5:3-12; Heb 10:35-36

You can PURCHASE to yourself a good degree / great boldness... The problem is too many

Christians do not count the _____ of _____ to the Saviour, and so, we do not “buy into” the ministry! Prov 31:16; Matt 25:19-30; 1 Cor 3:11-15

