

*Servant Leaders***Word of the Day: Deacon**

- “Diakonos (Deacon) Someone who performs a service or ministry.” (The Letters to Timothy and Titus, Robert W. Yarborough, Pg 206)
- Mark 10:42-45
- John 13:1-20 Jesus washed the Disciples feet
- Many churches have people that want to sit around a table but not many are willing to kneel and wash feet.
- “Leading Servant” because they not only serve but lead others to serve with them.
- Acts 6:1-7 does not call the men chosen to serve deacons but there is a form of the word in those passages.

**1) A Deacon must be Dignified**

- Acts 6:3

**2) A Deacon must not be “Double Tongued”**

- Saying one thing to one person but saying another thing to another person.
- James 5:12 says let your yes be yes and your no be no.
- “Behind deceitful speech is a deceitful mind” Alexander Strauch

**3) A Deacon must not be addicted to Wine****4) A Deacon must not be greedy for dishonest gain****1 Samuel 12:3**

- Loving money to the point of doing questionable practices
- Paul was thinking about the false teachers (1 Tim. 6:5 and Titus 1:11)

**5) A Deacon must know the Christian Faith and Live it****Romans 16:25 -26, 1 Timothy 1:19-20**

- Do they know the gospel?
- Do they have spiritual convictions?
- 1 Corinthians 2:6-16
- A Clear Conscience means he lives out what he believes
- Conscience is the inner guide given to us by God because He wrote the law on our hearts (Romans 2:15).

**6) A Deacon must be Tested**

- Acts 6 shows the men being chosen by the people
- Titus 1:5 shows Titus choosing them

**7) A Deacons wife must also display these things**

- The Greek word can mean woman or wife which some say is the reason that women can be deacons.
- Romans 16:1
- The idea is that the wife would accompany her husband in ministry
- If it is deaconess, then it is because women were ministering to women
- Dignified or A Woman of respect
- Not a slanderer or a woman who is not interested in healing only striking back
- Sober Minded: Balanced judgment and mental sobriety. Remains composed in all circumstances.
- Faithful in all things: Loyal, Reliable, Trustworthy

**8) A Deacon must have a well-managed home.****9) A Faithful Deacon will be Rewarded.**

- Serving itself brings the reward in the satisfaction one gets from serving his brothers and sisters
- The reward is that their faith is strengthened.
- Acts 6:5 describes Stephen as a man full of faith

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### Closing

- May God guide our church to find men who fit these requirements as we move forward by faith to do what He has called us to do.
- Would you pray for our deacon ministry of our church?
- Would you pray that God would lay men on your heart that would meet such qualifications so they could be tested?

### Devotion 1 Timothy 3:7-13

1. What is your idea of a Deacon?
2. Why did God give us the qualifications of deacons?
3. What does it say the character of the deacons wife should be?
4. Since we are all called to serve what makes the deacons service different?
5. How would churches be healthier spiritually if they had deacons that met these qualifications?

### Resources

- Word Biblical Commentary, Pastoral Epistles, William D. Mounce
  - Spiritual leadership J. Oswald Sanders
  - The Letters to Timothy and Titus, Robert W. Yarborough, Pg 206)
  - Minister of Mercy, The New Testament Deacon, Alexander Strauch, Pg, 96)
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*John 15:5*

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