**1 Timothy 3:8-13 — The Qualifications Of Deacons**

March 12, 2017

Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons: Philippians 1:1 (ESV)

1. What are the qualities of deacons?
   1. Deacons must be worthy of respect.

Deacons likewise must be dignified… 1 Timothy 3:8 (ESV)

Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Hebrews 13:7 (ESV)

* 1. Deacons can not be two-faced.

Deacons likewise must be dignified… 1 Timothy 3:8 (ESV)

* 1. Deacons can not be regular drinkers.

…not addicted to much wine… 1 Timothy 3:8 (ESV)

* 1. Deacons can not be using people for money.

…not greedy for dishonest gain… 1 Timothy 3:8 (ESV)

* 1. Deacons must hold the faith and live with a clear conscience.

They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience…1 Timothy 3:9 (ESV)

* 1. Deacons should be tested before appointed.

And let them also be tested first; them let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. 1 Timothy 3:10 (ESV)

1. What are the essential qualities for women deacons?
   1. A deaconess must be worthy of respect.

Their wives (women) must be dignified… 1 Timothy 3:11 (ESV)

* 1. A deaconess must control their mouth.

…not slanders… 1 Timothy 3:11 (ESV)

* 1. A deaconess can not be an emotional roller coaster.

…sober-minded… 1 Timothy 3:11 (ESV)

* 1. A deaconess must be faithful in all things.

…faithful in all things. 1 Timothy 3:11 (ESV)

1. What are the essential qualities for men deacons?
   1. A deacon must be a one-woman man.

Let deacons each be the husband of one wife,… 1 Timothy 3:12 (ESV)

I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days,…” Deuteronomy 30:19–20 (ESV)

* 1. A deacon must manage his household well.

…managing their children and household well. 1 Timothy 3:12 (ESV)

1. Deacons who serve well gain a great reward.

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. 1 Timothy 3:13 (ESV)

Conclusion

It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Matthew 20:26–28 (ESV)

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