

*ALL SCRIPTURE IS
INSPIRED BY GOD*



**Deacons'
Qualifications**

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Qualification of Deacons

The simple rule of thumb is...

Do they Trust him? (1 Cor 4:2)

Are they "afraid" of him or
are they "comfortable"?

Prospects may need more time
to grow (Eccles 3:1). If so, he
should be willingly accept it and grow.

Acts 1:23 Joseph Justus Barsabbas & Matthias—
v.26 and the lot fell to **Matthias**.



Qualification of Deacons

(1 Tim 3:8) They must be men of **DIGNITY** (NAS)

NIV: “Worthy of respect”
(Semnos) BGD

TLB: “Deacons must be
good, steady men.”

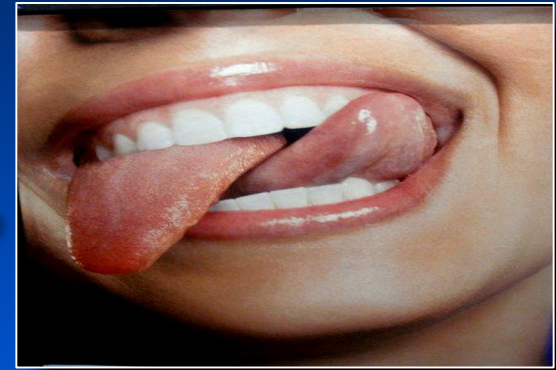


*Is he dependable: or flighty, & irresponsible?
Must not be a baby: handled with kid gloves !
Will he “get the job done” or make a mess?
Respect must be earned— (Phil 2:25-30). Epaph*

Qualification of Deacons

(1 Tim 3:8) Not **double – tongued**: (Di -logous)

Thayer: Not double-tongued
“saying one thing with one
person, another with another
(with intent to deceive):



MSSG: “Not deceitful”, **CEB**: “Not liars”.

Do you **trust** what he says?

Is he a **whisperer** (Prov 26:22)? Or is he
trustworthy & conceals a matter? (Prv 11:13)

Qualification of Deacons

1 Tim 3:8 Not addicted to ***much WINE***

Addicted: (*Prosechontas*) “giving attention to.”

Much wine: Drinkers rarely think they have a problem. Like smokers, they can quit anytime they choose—but they don't choose to.



A deacon has a servant's heart, and to him—***church means more than does his selfish attitude*** (1 Cor 10:32-33; cf. 1 Tim 5:8)

Qualification of Deacons

(1 Tim 3:8) Nor fond of **SORDID GAIN**



NIV: “Not pursuing dishonest gain.”

AMP: “Not craving wealth and resorting to dishonorable and dishonest methods of getting it.”

(Lk 16:10) He who is unrighteous **in a very little thing** is unrighteous in much.

Don't elect a **tightwad** deacon. He's a detriment !
Appoint **generous, honest, wise** men as deacons.

Qualification of Deacons

(1 Tim 3:9) “ Holding the *mystery of the faith* in a clear conscience”



Mystery of the faith = the Gospel (Eph 3:3-4)

Are they actively and actually a Christian ?

Clear conscience?

Is there a known moral conflict in their life?

(2 Pet 2:14) “Never ease from sin... unstable..”

Deacons are to grow like weeds, not be weeds!



Qualification of Deacons



(1 Tim 3:10) Also first be **tested** : “ To test as metals” *Robertson*

Are **already known men**?

Choose exclamation points! Not question marks?

Don't appoint one to keep him from moving.

Are they willing to do anything elders ask?

(2 Cor 8:22) “Sent our brother, whom we have often tested and found diligent in many things.”

Qualification of Deacons

(1 Tim 3:10) “Beyond
reproach”
No known
yet uncor-
rected
sin.



No one is flawless. (Eccles 7:20; Jas 3:2; 1 Jn 1:8)
But is he still bound up in sin? (Acts 8:22-23)
If there was sin—why did you correct them
before now? (Mt 8:15-17)

Qualification of Deacons

(1 Tim 3:11) **Women** must likewise..

A Deacon's **wife** has
essential qualifications



Dignified: Respected.

1. **Serious** about her duties as a Christian?
2. Display **prudence**, sound judgment?
3. Does she **dress appropriately**? (1 Tim 2:9)
4. Is she a **good wife** a helper to her husband?
5. **Being respected**, should be true of **all of us**
(1 Tim 2:2)

Qualification of Deacons

(1 Tim 3:11) Women must likewise..

Not malicious gossips: Not given to **finding fault** & spreading innuendos & criticisms in the church. (Vines)



She'll know confidential info & must **keep it**.
Does she say **harmful things** about others? (UBS)
Does she let her tongue bring **healing**? (Prov 12:18)
If she's not trusted—her husband won't be.

Qualification of Deacons

(1 Tim 3:11) Women must likewise..

A Deacon's wife has essential qualifications



Temperate: Sober minded,
self-controlled, balanced in life.

Faithful in all things: A reliable, Godly person?

Is she faithful and **consistent in worship?**

Is she **submissive** in marriage? (Eph 5:22-23)

Is she **diligent** in her spiritual work? (Mt 25:35-36)

Would you trust her with your wallet, car, house? ¹²

Qualification of Deacons

(1 Tim 3:12) *Husband of **one wife** –
Greek: *miás gunaikós ándres**

1. Not a bachelor = 0 wives !
2. Not a bigamist = 2 wives !
3. Not a polygamist = many wives !

Married men have experience in **problems-solving**, being responsible, sacrificing, and getting along.

He may be **remarried** after a scriptural divorce, or widowhood. But if controversy—he can decline in the interest of church unity. (Eph 4:3)



Qualification of Deacons

(1 Tim 3:12) *Good managers* of their children & their own households.

This is how he'll *Work!*
Can he *manage* family
or is he a tyrant?

He will be a *leader at home*
before he is a deacon & leader at church.

Does the wife think he's ready?

Does he *manage*— finances, house, *well*?

How he manages family is *How he'll do at church*



Qualification of Deacons

1 Tim 3:13

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.

ESV

