
THE QUALIFICATIONS OF A DEACON

1 Timothy 3:8-12

- The office of deacon is a _____ office.
- God’s requirements for deacons are _____ – because the office is high.
- Your personal _____ is important.
- People _____ the leadership of the church closely.
- People seldom _____ to a higher level of spiritual maturity than their spiritual leaders.
- Deacons should maintain a blameless testimony and an obvious _____ for growth and grace.
- “Grave”
 - A scriptural deacon understands the _____ of his ministry.
 - Grave men can be _____ men, but they are not silly.
- “Not doubletongued”
 - A scriptural deacon does not _____ with deceit or hypocrisy.
 - He tells the truth even if it doesn’t benefit him.
 - A deacon doesn’t gossip, talk behind the backs of others, undermine authorities, or hold grudges.
- “Not given to much wine”
 - A scriptural deacon is careful to _____ from harmful substances that could weaken the testimony of the church.
 - **1 Thessalonians 5:22** *Abstain from all appearance of evil.*
 - **Ephesians 5:18** *And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;*

- **Proverbs 23:29-35** *Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes?*

They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine.

Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright.

At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.

Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things.

Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast.

They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again.

- A deacon abstains from sinful _____ and associations.
- “Not greedy of filthy lucre”
 - A scriptural deacon isn’t influenced by _____.
 - **Proverbs 17:23** *A wicked man taketh a gift out of the bosom to pervert the ways of judgment.*
 - A deacon is a man who will not _____ his convictions for personal gain.
 - _____ twists minds and hinders sound judgment.
 - **1 Timothy 6:9-10** *But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.*
 - People who desire to be _____ are setting themselves up to be tempted and trapped.
 - A scriptural deacon is a generous _____.
 - **Matthew 6:21** *For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*
- “Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience”
 - The mystery of the faith is the _____.

- A deacon _____ the gospel.
- A deacon _____ the gospel.
- A deacon _____ the gospel.
- “Proved”
 - A scriptural deacon meets the qualifications to be a deacon _____ serving as a deacon.
- “Blameless”
 - A scriptural deacon has no reason to be _____ of wrongdoing by anyone in the church or in the community.
 - **“I like your Christ, I do not like your Christians. Your Christians are so unlike your Christ.” - Mahatma Ghandi**
 - People that know a deacon should want to know his _____.
- “The husband of one wife”
 - A scriptural deacon lives a life in harmony with the Bible’s teaching about _____.
 - He is a _____.
 - He is not _____.
 - He is not _____ with any other woman in addition to his wife – whether through adultery, pornography, or emotional connections.
 - He is not homosexual, bisexual, or gender fluid.
 - He doesn’t give the impression that he is _____ for any type of unscriptural relationships.
 - A deacon must be completely _____ to his wife and live in personal _____.
- “Ruling their children and their own houses well”
 - A scriptural deacon must be a spiritual leader in his _____ before he can be a spiritual leader in the church.

- A qualified wife

- A _____ has a powerful part in her husband's ministry.
- A deacon and his wife have the joy of serving the Lord _____.
- "Grave"
 - She is not a _____ woman.
 - She is not so _____ by worldly entertainment that she misses opportunities to serve.
- "Not a slanderer"
 - Slander is a false statement spoken with the intent to hurt the _____ of another person.
 - **Proverbs 18:21** *Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.*
 - A deacon's wife should set the standard in avoiding hurtful _____.
 - _____ is sharing information that might hurt someone – even if it is true.
 - **1 Timothy 5:13** *And withal they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not.*
- "Sober"
 - A deacon's wife abstains from alcohol and any other substance that would cause her to lose _____.
- "Faithful in all things"
 - A deacon's wife should be a _____ of faithfulness in every area.
 - She is faithful to the _____.
 - She is faithful to her _____ and her family.
 - She is faithful to her _____.