

# The Lord's Servants

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## I. Introduction.

- A. Text: I Timothy 3:8-13.
- B. There is widespread confusion about what a church leader is supposed to be.
- C. Elders were to guide the congregation as each member found what the Lord wanted him or her to do.

## II. Deacons.

- A. Women are included among the deacons unlike the elders.
- B. The task and character of male deacons.
  - 1. This arose from the incident in Acts 6.
  - 2. They were to be men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit (have a biblical view of life), and they were to possess the gift of wisdom.
  - 3. Deacons were simply those believers taking on specific acts of service in order to make the church operate.
  - 4. Personal qualifications: serious (a realist), not fork-tongued (but believable), not given too much wine, and not wheeler-dealers.
  - 5. Their record of accomplishment: they were to hold to the mystery of the faith (the Scriptures) with a clear conscience, and they are to be tried out first.
- C. The task and character of women deacons. They were to be realistic persons, not-slanderers, temperate, and faithful.
- D. General exhortations.
  - 1. If a male deacon was married, he should be a one-woman man.
  - 2. Results of right service.
    - a. A great sense of appreciation from the congregation.
    - b. A great sense of boldness in the deacon. When you serve God in any capacity, you will gain from God.

## **Application questions:**

1. What roles in your church could be considered the role of deacons?

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2. Which qualification for deacon stood out to you? Why?

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3. What is the reward for being a deacon? Under what circumstance should the office be pursued?

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