

Qualified Servants for the Church, Part 2

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: 1 Timothy 3.

B. God is looking for a person who is right before him to serve in the church. The qualifications for leadership have to do with the spiritual life of the heart. (Nehemiah 9:8; 1 Samuel 9:2; 16:7; 1 Chronicles 28:9; 2 Chronicles 16:9; 20:32; 19:3; 2 Kings 22:19; Ezekiel 14:20; Ezra 7:10; Luke 1; Mark 6:20; 1 Thessalonians 2:10; 1 Samuel 13:14; Ezekiel 22:30; Acts 13:22)

C. Serving in the church is a leadership position.

D. There are specific qualifications for service.

II. Personal character.

A. Brave.

1. This is being serious in mind and in character.
2. This person has a stateliness that commands respect.

B. Not “double-tongued.” This means not saying one thing to one person and another thing to another person.

C. Not given to too much wine.

1. Wine was a common drink because water was toxic.
2. Consequently, wine was a must. However, it had to be used with caution.

D. Not greedy for money or gain.

III. Spiritual life.

A. Holding the mystery of faith.

1. This means something that was once hidden but is now revealed. (Ephesians 3)
2. This is God’s redemptive truth revealed in the New Testament. (Matthew 13, Revelation)
3. This refers to the information given in the New Testament. (1 Timothy 4:6)
4. The stronger one’s doctrine and theology, the stronger his or her conscience is. (2 Corinthians 12:1)

IV. Christian service.

A. Tested.

1. This is an ongoing process.
2. One is observed over a long period of time.

B. Morally purity.

1. This is comprehensive.
2. This means to be without reproach.
3. This has to do with morality and perception.

C. A one-woman man.

V. Home life.

VI. Women deacons.

- A. Respectability.
- B. Control of the tongue.
- C. Sober-minded.
- D. Trustworthy.

VII. Rewards:

- A. A good standing.
- B. Boldness in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

Application Questions:

1. Which of the leadership qualifications do you think is most difficult for the modern church?

2. Which qualifications can you use the most growth in? How can you go about it?

3. How is a contemporary model for you of these characteristics? How do they go about embodying these qualifications?
