

GENDER ROLES IN THE CHURCH

PART 3

1 TIMOTHY 3:8-13

6-11-23

I. DEACON = LEADING SERVANT

II. WHAT DOES PAUL SAY ABOUT DEACONS HERE?

1. Deacons need CHARACTER

1 Timothy 3:8 - "Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain."

2. Deacons need TO BE SOUND

1 Timothy 3:9 - "They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience."

3. Deacons need TO BE TESTED

1 Timothy 3:10 - "And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless."

4. Deacons can BE MEN AND WOMEN

1 Timothy 3:11 - "Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things."

Romans 16:1 - "I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church at Cenchreae..."

III. DEACONS REWARD

1. BEFORE MAN – "Gains a good standing"

1 Timothy 3:13 - "For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing...."

2. BEFORE GOD – "Great confidence in the faith"

1 Timothy 3:13 - "... great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus."

GROWING DEEPER THIS WEEK

1. What was one major take away from the message this week? What challenged your thinking?
2. Why would it be important for God to ordain people to lead the charge of serving in the church?
3. Why do you think it is so difficult for people to serve in church today?
4. How do we celebrate people who faithfully serve in the church today?

DISCUSS – As a Community Group one of the important qualities is that the group serves together. As a group, talk through areas you might begin to serve in at MCC together!

5. Why was it important for Paul to focus more on the character of the deacons rather than the job description?
6. How can a healthy team of Deacons bless the church body?
7. Why would it be important for Deacons to be tested? What does that communicate about their role?

PRAYER TIME

- Pastor Brandon asked if we would pray for the raising up of more Deacons here at MCC. Take some time as a group and pray specifically for God to raise up people to fulfill this role here at MCC.
- These past couple of weeks we have spent time looking at the importance of Church leadership. Spend some time praying for the many people who serve on staff here at MCC!

PASTORS & ELDERS

- **Pastor Brandon Hancock** – Lead Pastor
- **Pastor Matt Altman** – Associate Pastor
- **Tim Bates** - Elder
- **Vitaliy Lisichenko** – Elder
- **Sam Meyer** – Elder
- **Dewitt Moffat** – Elder
- **Pastor Rob O’Connell** – Elder
- **Dave Zebrak** – Elder

STAFF

- **Leah Attaway** – Connections Team Lead
- **Alexene Colquhoun** – Media Lead
- **Rob Dunn** – Facilities Director
- **Lisa Fetterman** – Office Assistant
- **Jon Gibbs** – Finance Lead
- **Stephanie Gribbin** – Children's Ministry Assistant/Custodial Lead
- **Karen Lentz** – Children's Ministry/Office
- **Gil Rice** – Praise Team Leader
- **Robert Sanford** – Youth Ministry Assistant