

## SERMON NOTES



This week's sermon  
**WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD SERVANTS –NO, LOTS OF THEM!**  
*1 Timothy 3:8-13*

### 5 THINGS WE KNOW ABOUT DEACONS

1. Deacons can be men or women.
2. The requirements for deacon are brief.
3. The work of deacons is never outlined.
4. Family behavior is important.
5. Serving as a deacon comes with a promise of blessing.

*8 Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. 9 They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. 10 And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. 11 Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. [ Women must likewise be dignified, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things.--NASB.] 12 Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. 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.*

*1 Timothy 3:8-13*

## Digging Deeper into the Message

See 1 Timothy 3:8-13 on the front of the MAP.

1. To whom is this passage written?
2. What are some synonyms of the word “dignified”?
3. What 3 things must deacons not be in verse 8?
4. What does “double tongued” mean?
5. What do you think verse 9 means?
6. What are the women supposed to be like?
7. Why do you think the passage mentions women here? Why not just talk about male and female deacons as one group?
8. What is the reward for those who serve well as deacons?

## Community Group

**ICEBREAKER:** tell of a time when you witnessed or were the recipient of a stranger putting others first (like Pastor Mike’s SAM’s Club story)

**QUESTIONS:** For all of the Bible passages below, everyone look up each passage and read along in your own bible as one person reads aloud. Then answer the questions that follow.

- ❖ Read Mark 10:35-45
  - What were James and John really asking when they requested to sit at Jesus’s right and left hand?
  - What does verse 38 mean? Verse 39?
  - Who will sit at Jesus’ right and left hand? (verse 40)
  - In God’s kingdom, how can you be great?
  - What do you observe about this passage that you never noticed before?
- ❖ Read Luke 19:11-27. Someone explain what a parable is.
  - Who does each character in the story represent in real life: the nobleman; the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> servants; the 3<sup>rd</sup> servant; the enemies in verse 27.
  - What was so wrong about the third servant’s actions?
  - What does verse 26 mean?
  - Read verse 17 again. Don’t you want to hear Jesus say this to you when he comes back? How can you?
- ❖ Read Philippians 2:1-11.
  - List the practical commands in verses 1-5
  - Why should we serve others? (verses 6-10)
  - In one sentence, what would you say is the main point of this passage?
  - Everyone say 1 practical way you can apply this passage to your life this week.
- ❖ Read Ephesians 4:29
  - How is gossip a form of pride? Have you been guilty of this sin lately, and how do you need to repent?
- ❖ Read the 5 things we know about deacons on the front of the MAP. Are there any points that surprise you or that you don’t understand?
- ❖ Read 1 Timothy 3:8-13 (on the front of the MAP). Go around the room and everyone make an observation about the passage.

**APPLICATION:** How can you be a servant to others (put others first) this week?