

1 Timothy

Fight the Good Fight

The Portrait of a Deacon

Introduction and Review (*1 Timothy 3:15*)

What is a Deacon? (*Acts 6:1-4; Philippians 1:1; John 12:2; Mark 10:43-45; Luke 22:27; 2 Corinthians 11:23; Colossians 1:25; 1 Timothy 4:6; Ephesians 6:21; Colossians 1:7; Romans 16:1*)

A Deacon's _____

1. **A Deacon's** _____ (*1 Timothy 3:8*)

2. **A Deacon's** _____ (*1 Timothy 3:9, 1:18-19; Ephesians 6:19; 1 John 2:1-2*)

3. **A Deacon's** _____ (*1 Timothy 3:10, 6*)

4. A Deacon's _____ (1 Timothy 3:11; Romans 16:1)

5. A Deacon's _____ and _____ (1 Timothy 3:12; Ephesians 5:25; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12)

A Deacon's _____ (1 Timothy 3:13; Matthew 22:39, 7:12; Philippians 2:3)

Discussion Questions (1 Timothy 3:8-13)

1. What does the word deacon (Greek *diakonos*) mean and how does this help us understand both the official church office of deacon and the fact that all believers are to be unofficial deacons? (1 Timothy 3:8-13; Philippians 1:1; Acts 6:1-4; Mark 10:43-45; Luke 22:27; Colossians 1:25; 1 Timothy 4:6; Ephesians 6:21; Colossians 1:7; Romans 16:1)
2. Go through the list of qualifications for being a deacon (and a deacon's wife), what does each one mean? (1 Timothy 3:8-12)
3. What are the similarities and differences between the qualifications for elder and the qualifications for deacon? (1 Timothy 3:2-12) Why do you think Paul includes qualifications regarding a deacon's (but not an elder's) belief, testing and wife? (1 Timothy 3:9-11)
4. Even though the qualifications for deacon in 1 Timothy 3:8-12 are focused on men, does this mean women should not be deacons (deaconesses)? (Romans 16:1)
5. Since, in one sense, all believers are deacons (servants of Christ and His Church), what qualifications would you like to grow in? (1 Timothy 3:8-12)
6. What does it mean to "serve well as a deacon"? (1 Timothy 3:13, Matthew 22:39, 7:12; Philippians 2:3; 1 Timothy 3:8-12) What are the rewards for serving well? (1 Timothy 3:13) Are you experiencing these rewards? If not, what might that indicate about your service to Christ and his Church?
7. What are some areas that you might serve Christ and His Church at Bridges?