

**A FEW GOOD MEN**  
**1 TIMOTHY 3:8-11 / 3-10-19 / AM**

**I. WHAT ARE THE FIVE TRAITS DEACONS NEED?**

A. First, Paul mentions four character traits deacons need in verse 8.

1. **“Worthy of Respect”**

- a. Someone who is respectable.
- b. Someone who has a good reputation.

2. **“Sincere”**

- a. Someone who is trustworthy.
- b. The KJV says “not double-tongued” i.e. not a liar.

3. **“Not indulging in much wine”**

- a. Someone who is self-controlled rather than being controlled by any substance—Isa. 5:11 and Eph. 5:18.
- b. Neither my wife nor I drink any alcohol and I think this is the safest approach to guard against the danger of addiction.

4. **“Not pursuing dishonest gain”**

- a. Paul doesn't say don't make money, but rather don't make it dishonestly.
- b. Further, it means honestly handling money.

B. In addition to character traits Paul mentions one spiritual trait deacons need.

1. Paul lists this spiritual trait in verse 9.

2. What does Paul mean here?

- a. Paul says a deacon's lifestyle should match their doctrine.
- b. In other words, a deacon's behavior should match their belief.
- c. Paul gives a warning of the consequences—1 Timothy 1:19.

- C. Third, Paul mentions two personal traits deacons need.
  - 1. These personal traits are found in verse 10.
  - 2. Although Paul says deacons should be tested, he doesn't list any method for testing them.
  - 3. This means that there is nothing negative they could be accused of.
- D. Fourth, Paul mentions two family traits deacons need.
  - 1. These family traits are found in verse 12.
  - 2. The phrase "**husband of one wife**" has been historically a difficult one to interpret.
  - 3. "**Ruling their children and their own houses well**".
- E. Fifth, Paul mentions four marital traits of the wife of a deacon.
  - 1. These marital traits are found in verse 11.
  - 2. This means a deacon's wife should be worthy of respect, not a gossip, serious about her faith, and trustworthy.

**II. AFTER LISTING FIVE TRAITS OF DEACONS PAUL MENTIONS TWO BENEFITS OF BEING A DEACON.**

- A. These benefits are in verse 13.
- B. The first benefit of being a deacon is having a good standing or reputation.
- C. The second benefit of being a deacon is having confidence or assurance in your salvation.