

**Servants of God
(1 Timothy 3:8-13)**

B. Instructions Concerning PUBLIC WORSHIP and POTENTIAL LEADERS. (2-3)

5. The **QUALIFICATIONS** of **DEACONS**

a. Introduction – Review the text in its context

- Two (2) general observations:
 1. This passage does not **define** the functions of a deacon but explains the _____ of person who _____ to be a deacon.
 2. Overseers and deacons are **distinct** in function but **similar** in _____ and _____.

b. History – Why was the role needed?

1. Deacons serve as church officers, and as such are not _____ in the _____ as the church is an _____. (Matt 16:18)
 2. And the Lord _____ to the church daily those who were being _____. (Acts 2:40-47)
 3. As the church was growing, there was a complaint against the church leaders that _____ were being _____. (Acts 6:1)
 4. The apostles acknowledged that the growth in numbers created a need and directed the brethren (believers) to seek _____ men of good _____. (Acts 6:2-3)
 5. whom we may appoint" – the _____ had the final _____ in the appointment of these men. (Acts 6:3)
 6. The apostles recognized that their first priorities were _____ and _____. (Acts 6:4)
 7. The believers (disciples) were _____ with the plan and selected seven _____ men. (Acts 6:5)
 8. The apostles demonstrated their agreement with the chosen seven by _____ their _____ on them. (Acts 6:6)
- What was the result?
 1. The number of the disciples multiplied _____. (Acts 6:7)
 2. A great many of the priests were _____. (Acts 6:7)

c. General Qualifications of Deacons

1. Deacons must be _____.
2. Deacons must be part of a _____.
3. The primary character quality is _____, not perfection.

d. Specific Qualifications of Deacons

1. The word "likewise" points back to "_____" in v2, as Paul is going to repeat the basic _____ of spiritual leadership required for pastors.
2. v8 – personal characteristics/qualities are:
 - i. _____ / _____ of _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. Self-_____ / self-_____
 - iv. _____ stewards with _____
3. v9 – A deacon knows biblical _____ and does not depart from it.
4. v10 – Men should be _____ by the entire church _____ to being appointed as a deacon.
5. v11 – The word "likewise" indicates that wives of deacons are required to have *similar* _____ qualities of their husbands.
6. v12 – Deacons may be _____ or _____.
 - i. If married, he must be _____ and _____ to his wife.
 - ii. If he has children, they should submit to his leadership out of _____.
 - iii. A deacon must _____ his own home well.

e. Pastor vs. Deacon Qualifications (see D1 above)

1. The first priority of pastors is to _____ the Word of God.
2. The priority of deacons is to _____ the pastor/elders where needed.

f. Promised Reward

1. A good, high, or excellent _____ for themselves.
2. Great _____ or _____ in the faith.

g. Personal Conclusions (Select only one)

- I'm saved.....
- I'm not saved.....