

Deacons

1 Timothy 3:8-13

What Is A Deacon?

- **The word “deacon” is from the Greek word “diakonos” which is defined as a servant, an attendant, or a minister. (Thayer’s)**
- **W.E. Vine says the word “deacon” primarily denotes a “servant,” whether as doing servile work, or as an attendant rendering free service, without particular reference to its character.**

What Is A Deacon?

- **The New Testament Scriptures translate the Greek word “diakonos” as “servant” a few times as we see in (Matthew 23:11; Mark 10:43), it is also translated as “minister” a few times (1 Corinthians 3:5), and it is translated 5x in the Scriptures as “deacons” or “deacon.” (Philippians 1:1; 1 Timothy 3:8, 10, 12-13)**
- **Simply put, a “deacon” is a “servant,” and in the technical sense in which we will use the word today, and as found in the 5x it is translated as “deacon” in the Scriptures, a “deacon” is a servant to the church who works under the oversight of the local eldership.**

The Work of A Deacon

- Although the responsibilities of a deacon are not clearly listed or outlined in the Bible, we can learn that the work of a deacon is one of active service. (1 Timothy 3:13)**
- It's important to know that a deacons work is not to rule, but is to serve. (1 Timothy 3:10, 13)**
- A deacon is to work under the oversight of the elders, and must therefore respect the elders, and readily accept the duties that are assigned to them. (1 Peter 5:2; 1 Timothy 3:13)**

The Qualifications For The Office of A Deacon

- Must be reverent or grave. (1 Timothy 3:8)**
- Must not be double-tongued. (1 Timothy 3:8)**
- Must be not given to much wine. (1 Timothy 3:8)**
- Must be not greedy for money. (1 Timothy 3:8)**
- Must hold the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience. (1 Timothy 3:9)**
- They are to first be tested. (1 Timothy 3:10)**
- Must be blameless. (1 Timothy 3:10)**
- Must be married, the husband of one wife, and their wives must be of godly character. (1 Timothy 3:11-12)**
- Must rule their children well and their own houses well. (1 Timothy 3:12)**

Why Does The Church Need Deacons?

- For the church to be fully organized according to the New Testament pattern, deacons must be appointed. (Philippians 1:1; 1 Timothy 3:8-12)**
- We need deacons to serve in the church so that the eldership can focus on the work that they have to do. (1 Timothy 3:10; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 5:1-2)**
- The fact that Paul addresses the saints in the local congregation at Philippi with the bishops and deacons, and the fact that Timothy was given instruction by Paul concerning the qualifications of a deacon, leaves no doubt that God desires for there to not only be elders in every church in every city, but also for there to be deacons in every church in every city. (Philippians 1:1; 1 Timothy 3:8-13)**

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

- **Hear the word of God. (Romans 10:17)**
- **Believe in Jesus Christ. (John 8:24)**
- **Repent of your sins. (Acts 17:30)**
- **Confess Jesus Christ. (Romans 10:9-10)**
- **Be baptized for the remission of sins. (Acts 2:38)**
- **Remain faithful unto death. (Revelation 2:10)**