

## Deacons

October 19, 2014

1 Timothy 3:8-16

- I. The Kingdom Work of Deacons
  - A. More than assistants (Acts 6:1-7)
  - B. Lead the church, don't replace it
  - C. Proactive, not reactive
  - D. The duties of deacons (see *Directory for Church Government*)
    1. regular attendance/participation in deacon meetings
    2. joint meetings with the elders to pray and work together
    3. active ministry of mercy
    4. active ministry of stewardship
    5. carrying out visitation to develop these things in the congregation
    6. carrying out other duties assigned to them by the elders, congregation, or presbytery
  
- II. The Character of Deacons
  - A. Dignity – acts appropriately
  - B. Integrity – doesn't talk about both sides of his mouth
  - C. Temperate
  - D. Trustworthy with money
  - E. A Christian with no secret sins
  - F. Proven faithful by past conduct
  - G. One-woman men and one-man women
  - H. Good at ruling your children and household
  
- III. The Character of Deaconesses
  - A. Women as well as men may serve in this office (Romans 16:1)
  - B. Dignified
  - C. Not slanderous
  - D. Sober-minded
  - E. Faithful in all things
  
- IV. Servants in the King's House
  - A. "I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness." (Psalm 84:10; see also Matthew 20:28)
  - B. The reward of servants: honor in the house of God
  - C. The hope of servants: the true Servant