

Be the Greatest; Be the SERVANT

Paul instructs Timothy on who can be Deacons; 1 Timothy 3 8-13, Chris Mueller 12-03-2017 *Part One*

Introduction:

Matthew 20:28 *just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many*

1 Timothy 3:15 *I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.*

1 Timothy 3:8 Deacons *likewise must be men of dignity, not double-tongued, or addicted to much wine or fond of sordid gain, 9 but holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. 10* These men *must also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons if they are beyond reproach. 11* Women *must likewise be dignified, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things. 12* Deacons *must be husbands of only one wife, and good managers of their children and their own households. 13* *For those who have served well as* deacons *obtain for themselves a high standing and great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.*

Acts 6:1-6

- A. Deacons free up the _____
- B. Deacons are SHOCK absorbers
- C. Deacons are _____ by the entire church
- D. Deacons are QUALIFIED *They don't need Elder micromanaging, and they have the trust of the congregation*
- E. Deacons are not required to be _____

#1 Men of _____

8 *Deacons likewise must be men of dignity, not double-tongued, or addicted to much wine or fond of sordid gain, 9 but holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.*

Isaiah 5:11 *Woe to those who rise early in the morning that they may pursue strong drink, Who stay up late in the evening that wine may inflame them!* Proverbs 20:1 *Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, And whoever is intoxicated by it is not wise.*

Romans 13:13 *Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness...* Galatians 5:21 *drunkenness*

#2 Men _____ by the church family

10 *These men must also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons if they are beyond reproach.*

#3 Women who _____ the church by assisting deacons and elders

11 *Women must likewise be dignified, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things.*

#4 Men who _____ their wives and manage their homes

12 *Deacons must be husbands of only one wife, and good managers of their children and their own households.*

#5 Men who have honor and _____ in the church

13 *For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a high standing and great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.*

1 *Thessalonians 5:12 ... we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor [deacon] among you, and have charge over you [elders] in the Lord and give you instruction, [teaching elders]*

A _____ SERVICE

3 *John 9 Diotrefes, who loves to be first among them, does not accept what we say.*

B HEART DRIVEN SERVICE

Ephesians 6:5 *Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ; 6 ... as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart. 7 With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men,*

C _____ SERVICE

D TRUSTING SERVICE

Galatians 5:13b *through love serve one another.*

E _____ SERVICE

Colossians 3:23 *Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men,*

QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH IN CHRIST

1. What are some of the misunderstandings about deacons, and how does this passage clarify the misunderstanding?
2. How is the office of deacon different than office of elder, and how is the deacon similar to an elder?
3. Why do you think deacons have to be tested and qualified to function as deacons?
4. Why is being a servant so important to the Lord and to the church? What role do deacons play in service to the church?
5. How are those who serve in ministry different than those who serve as deacons, and why are they different?
6. What kind of reward in life, and in eternity, do deacons and all those who serve receive from the Lord?
7. What changes should occur in your life after studying "the greatness of those who serve"?

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