

Being a Servant for Christ?

Grace Bible Chapel

Study of 1 Timothy 3:8-13

October 25, 2026

Context: We continue in Paul's first pastoral epistle to Timothy. Paul is writing to guide the early church in its formation to serve the Lord as a light against the darkness. The church is the extension of Christ's work in the world requiring His design. "God is not a God of confusion but of peace" (1 Cor. 14:33). Essential for the church to function is an attitude of servanthood and obedience to the best interests of the Savior as His ambassadors. As shown initially, the goal of the instruction for the church is love from a pure heart and a good conscience (V. 1:5). Key in the organization of the church are those willing to minister on behalf of Christ to others. Paul has given the qualifications for the office of elder, now he focuses on the qualifications for the office of deacon and those who serve others in the church. We will look at the necessity for deacons and the importance to the testimony of Christ before the world.

Outline of 1st Timothy (underlined portion is the immediate context)

I. Charges for Public Worship (1:1-2-15)

II. Conditions for Leadership (3:1-15)

A. Church Elder Qualifications (3:1-7)

B. Church Deacons (3: 8-13)

Key Words

- Deacons (4)
- Must (4)
- Men (2)
- Faith
- dignified

Introduction:

• Situation and Need

• Solution & Selection

• Servant Office Qualifications

• Servant Rewards

• Closing: