

Leadership In The Church, 1 Timothy 3:1-13

“I am writing these things to you so that... you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth.” (ESV)

1 Timothy 3:14–15

Point 1: What are Elders & Deacons?

Elders are called, competent, and qualified men who sacrificially oversee the household of God and provide spiritual care for the people of God.

Deacons are qualified, competent men & women who assist the elders in the work of oversight & care.

Elders are God’s design for the church from the beginning

Acts 14:21,23 - they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch... [23] And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed. (ESV)

Titus 1:5 - [5] This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you— (ESV)

Elders are called & appointed by God

Ephesians 4:11 - [11] And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, (ESV)

Acts 20:28 - [28] Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. (ESV)

Point 2: Who are Elders & Deacons?

Women as Deacons

Romans 16:1 - [1] I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church at Cenchreae, (ESV)

Romans 16:3–4 - Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, [4] who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks but all the churches of the Gentiles give thanks as well. (ESV)

Romans 16:6 - Greet Mary, who has worked hard for you. (ESV)

Qualifications For Elders - Calling, Competency, & Character

Calling

Ephesians 4:11 - [11] And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, (ESV)

Acts 20:28 - [28] Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. (ESV)

Calling is worked out in community & under authority

1 Timothy 5:22 - Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands. (ESV)

2 Timothy 1:6 - For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, (ESV)

Competency

Handling the Word of God

2 Timothy 2:15 - Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. (ESV)

Leadership in his home

1 Timothy 3:4–5 - He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? (ESV)

Shepherding Skills

1 Peter 5:2 - shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight. (ESV)

Character (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9)

His Personal Life

- Above Reproach
- Faithful
- Self-Controlled, Sober-Minded, Respectable
- Peaceable, Gentle
- Sacrificial Giver
- Humble
- Honest
- Tough & Tender

His Family Life

- Leading & Managing Home
- Completely Committed to His Wife
- His Children Honor & Obey Him

His Spiritual Life

- Disciple-Making
- Love for the Word
- Devoted to Prayer
- Convicted

