



A Christian Deacon

1 Timothy 3:8-13

Introduction:

“In the Christian context deacons are critical if the church is going to function the way Christ meant it to function.”

But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word. Acts 6:4

Famous Deacons:

- ◆ As a deacon you're in the league of Stephen who would rather die than to deny the faith. *And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him. Acts 8:2*
- ◆ As a deacon you're in the league of Philip who set aside his agenda to follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit. He, through his faith witness, won souls to Christ. *Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. Acts 8:35*

“The deacon must be one whose heart is impelled by Christ, whose character is formed by Christ, and whose mind is focused on Christ.”

- David Jeremiah

I. There are the characteristics of a Christian deacon. (V. 8-9)

One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; 1 Timothy 3:4

“If you can be a Christian at home, you can be a Christian anywhere.”

- Adrian Rogers

- A. A deacon must have self-control to be effective.

Likewise must the deacons be grave, 1 Timothy 3:8

Grave: Worthy of respect, a man of Christian character, a character worthy of imitation.

That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. Titus 2:2

- B. A deacon must have self-respect to be effective.

Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. 1 Timothy 3:9

II. There is the character of a Christian deacon. (V.10)

- A. A deacon must be proven to be sound in ministry.

And let these also first be proved; 1 Timothy 3:10

*“An untested Christian is an unprepared Christian.”
- Warren Wiersbe*

- B. A deacon must be pure to be stable in ministry.

... then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. 1 Timothy 3:10

The Necessity of Deacons in the Ministry of the Church

- ◆ They are necessary to be an example to the believers. ***Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. Acts 6:3***
- ◆ They are necessary in order to untie the pastor's hands, so he can attend to prayer and the ministry of the word. ***But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word. Acts 6:4***
- ◆ They are necessary to provide comfort and help to the needy of the church. ***And in those days, when the number of the disciples were multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministrations. Acts 6:1*** (God multiplies the devil divides!)

III. There is the companion of a Christian deacon. (V.11-13)

- A. The deacon's wife is to be serious about the ministry.

Even so must their wives be grave, 1 Timothy 3:11

Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. (V. 11) The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. (V. 12) She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. Proverbs 31:10-12

B. The deacon's wife must not be a slanderer in the ministry.

... not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. 1 Timothy 3:11

But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. James 3:8

The Benefits of the Deacon Ministry in Our Church

And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith. Acts 6:7

1. The word of God increased in its effectiveness.
2. The number of disciples multiplied greatly.
3. A great company of priests was obedient to the faith.