



“The Church That Guards the Gospel”
**“DEACONS OF DISTINCTION:
CHARACTER THAT COMMENDS CHRIST”**
1 Timothy 3:8–13

I. The DIGNITY of Their Character (v. 8)

“Deacons likewise must be dignified...”

1. Reverent in Conduct - “Dignified”

2. Reliable in Speech - “Not double-tongued”

3. Restrained in Appetites - “Not addicted to much wine”

4. Righteous in Motives - “Not greedy for dishonest gain”

II. The DEVOTION of Their Faith (v. 9)

“They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.”

1. Firm Conviction - “The mystery of the faith”

2. Clean Conscience

3. Integrated Life - Belief + behavior = integrity

III. The DEPENDABILITY of Their Testing (v. 10)

“Let them also be tested first...”

1. Proven Before Positioned

Principle: *Faithfulness in small things precedes responsibility in greater things.*

2. Blameless in Reputation - “Blameless”

IV. The DISCIPLINE of Their Home (vv. 11–12)

A. Faithfulness in Relationships

“Husband of one wife” — literally “a one-woman man”

B. Stability in the Household

“Managing their children and households well”

Note on Verse 11 (Women/Wives)

“Women likewise must be dignified...”

V. The DIVIDENDS of Their Service (v. 13)

“For those who serve well...”

1. A Good Standing

2. Great Confidence in the Faith

APPLICATION

1. The Church Needs Servants, Not Celebrities

2. Character Matters More Than Competence

3. Every Believer Is Called to Serve
