

Chapter 5

1. After reading the quotation by Jerome (see page 87 in the text), do you see his complaint as having any relevance for today's churches? If so, explain or give an example.
2. What specific concern did Paul have in mind that compelled him to establish the moral and spiritual qualifications for both elders and deacons? (1 Tim 3.1-13)
3. The first qualification for a deacon is dignified. In your own words, explain what the term dignified requires of a deacon candidate. Why do you think this qualification begins the list of deacon qualifications?
4. Why is integrity of speech and essential biblical requirement for a deacon? List as many reasons as you can.
5. How might you be able to identify a person who is a "closet alcoholic" or a "high-functioning alcoholic"? How would you care for and confront such a person?
6. In what subtle ways can church leaders miss appropriate money for one's own profit? List as many ways as you can.
7. In your own words, explain what each of the following phrases mean colon
 - a. The mystery of the faith
 - b. Holding to the mystery of the faith
 - c. With a clear conscience
8. How would you briefly summarize the qualification required of a deacon in 1 Timothy 3.9?
9. A deacon's lifestyle (conduct, behavior, attitude) must match his beliefs (biblical doctrine, the gospel). There must not be a disconnect between one's conduct and beliefs. How do the following verses state this same important theme?
 - a. Ezra 7.10; Matthew 7.21-27, 23.1-3; Luke 8.21; James 1.22-25, 2.26
10. Why is the qualification stated in 1 Timothy 3.9 so vital to a deacons public reputation and work as an aid to the elders?