

## The servants God honors

1 Timothy 3:8-13

- I. Men who serve (especially as deacons) must have spiritual character (1 Timothy 3:8-10).  
What is a deacon? = Servant
  - Worthy of respect/dignified – Serious-minded
  - Sincere – Not hypocrites
  - Not indulging in wine – Self-controlled
  - Not pursuing dishonest gain – Not greedy/dishonest
  - Holding...to the faith – Know and defend God's word
  - Clear conscience – What he knows and God knows
  - Tested – A track record of faithful service
  
- II. Women who serve (like deacons) must have spiritual character (1 Timothy 3:11/Romans 16:1-2).
  - Worthy of respect/dignified – Serious-minded
  - Not malicious talkers – No gossip/slander
  - Temperate – Self-controlled
  - Trustworthy – Faithful to God, family, tasks
  
- III. Men who serve as deacons must be godly leaders of their home (1 Timothy 3:12).
  - Those who lead as servants in the church must first lead and serve well in their home.
  
- IV. Those who serve are blessed and honored by God (1 Timothy 3:13).
  - Good standing – The church and God will honor them
  - Assurance of faith – They will have spiritual confidence