

# Deacons Checklist

The biblical role of deacons is to take care of the physical and logistical needs of the church. This distinction is based on the pattern found in Acts 6:1–6. The apostles were devoted “to prayer and to the ministry of the word” (v. 4). Since this was their primary calling, seven men were chosen to handle more practical matters to allow the apostles the freedom to continue with their work.

## THE QUALIFICATIONS OF DEACONS

The only passage that mentions the qualifications for deacons is 1 Timothy 3:8–13. In this passage, Paul gives an official but not exhaustive list of the requirements for deacons.

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Paul identifies nine qualifications for deacons in 1 Timothy 3:8-12:

1. **Dignified (v. 8):** This term normally refers to something that is honorable, respectable, esteemed, or worthy, and is closely related to “respectable,” which is given as a qualification for elders (1 Tim. 3:2).
2. **Not double-tongued (v. 8):** Those who are double-tongued say one thing to certain people but then say something else to others or say one thing but mean another. They are two-faced and insincere. Their words cannot be trusted, so they lack credibility.
3. **Not addicted to much wine (v. 8):** A man is disqualified for the office of deacon if he is addicted to wine or other strong drink. Such a person lacks self-control and is undisciplined.
4. **Not greedy for dishonest gain (v. 8):** If a person is a lover of money, he is not qualified to be a deacon.
5. **Sound in faith and life (v. 9):** Paul also indicates that a deacon must “hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.” The phrase “the mystery of the faith” is simply one way Paul speaks of the gospel (cf. 1 Tim. 3:16). Consequently, this statement refers to the need for deacons to hold firm to the true gospel without wavering.
6. **Blameless (v. 10):** Paul writes that deacons must “be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless” (v. 10). “Blameless” is a general term referring to a person’s overall character. Moreover, the congregation should not only examine a potential deacon’s moral, spiritual, and doctrinal maturity, but should also consider the person’s track record of service in the church.
7. **Godly wife (v. 11):** According to Paul, deacons’ wives must “be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things” (v. 11). Like her husband, the wife must be dignified or respectable. Secondly, she must not be a slanderer or a person who goes around spreading gossip. A deacon’s wife must also be sober-minded or temperate. That is, she must be able to make good judgments and must not be involved in things that might hinder such judgment. Finally, she must be “faithful in all things” (cf. 1 Tim. 5:10).
8. **Husband of one wife (v. 12):** The best interpretation of this difficult phrase is to understand it as referring to the faithfulness of a husband toward his wife. He must be a “one-woman man.” That is, there must be no other woman in his life to whom he relates in an intimate way either emotionally or physically.
9. **Manage children and household well (v. 12):** A deacon must be the spiritual leader of his wife and children.



# Deacon Nomination Form

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

Nominating someone to serve as a Deacon is an important responsibility. Here are a few reminders as we prayerfully approach this process:

- Please do not inform the candidate of this recommendation. The candidate will be contacted by a member of our Deacon Interview Teams when the time is appropriate.
- Please refer to the attachments for the Biblical qualifications for deacons and prayerfully consider your recommendation(s).
- Please note that a nominee must be an active church member for one full year in order to be eligible to serve our church family as a deacon.
- Please note our Church Policies only allow nominations to be received by church members.
- Please complete as much of the form as you can from your personal knowledge. Use a separate form for each nominee. Do not worry about leaving blank spaces. Our Deacon Interview Team will follow up.

## INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON BEING RECOMMENDED:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status:  Never Married  Married  Separated  Divorced  Widowed

Names and Ages of Children (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

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# Deacon Nomination Form

Previously Ordained:  Yes  No  Do Not Know; If Yes, Name of the church: \_\_\_\_\_

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List Church Activities in which you have personally participated with the candidate and any other church activities in which you know he is involved: \_\_\_\_\_

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Describe the candidate's character and why you are recommending him for consideration:

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In your opinion, what leadership and/or service skills does the candidate possess? \_\_\_\_\_

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## INFORMATION ABOUT THE INDIVIDUAL MAKING THE RECOMMENDATION:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

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Please Print Your Name

*Each nomination form must be signed by a church member in order to be valid.  
All forms are kept confidential.*