

# QUALIFICATIONS OF A DEACON

The Biblical qualifications for a deacon are found in Acts 6:1-6 and in 1 Timothy 3:8-13. They are divided in to 3 categories:

## 1. SPIRITUAL Acts 6:1-6

- A. Men of good reputation
- B. Full of the Spirit
- C. Full of wisdom

*In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.<sup>2</sup> So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. <sup>3</sup>Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them <sup>4</sup>and give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."*

*<sup>5</sup>This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicolas from Antioch, a covert of Judaism.<sup>6</sup> They presented these men to the apostle, who prayed and laid their hands on them. Acts 6:1-6*

## 2. Moral 1 Timothy 3:8-10, 12-13

- A. Worthy of respect
- B. Not hypocritical
- C. Not drinking a lot of wine
- D. Not greedy for money
- E. Holding the mystery of faith with a clear conscience
- F. The husband of one wife
- G. Managing their children and their household well

*<sup>8</sup>Deacons, likewise, are to be worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain.<sup>9</sup> They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience.<sup>10</sup> They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons. 1 Timothy 3:8-10*

*<sup>12</sup>A deacon must be the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well.<sup>13</sup> Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus. 1 Timothy 3: 12-13*

## 3. WIFE OF A DEACON 1 Timothy 3:11

- A. Worthy of respect
- B. Not slanderers
- C. Self-controlled
- D. Faithful in everything.

*<sup>11</sup>In the same way, their wives are to be women worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything. 1 Timothy 3:11*

## PRACTICAL DUTIES

1. Loyal support, available to assist and respect of the pastor and staff.
2. Faithful and consistent participation in the services, attend Sunday School, participate in worship and other ministries of the church.
3. Attend monthly deacons' meetings.
4. Encourage and model the example to others of what a faithful participant in the life of FBC looks like.
5. A consistent commitment to stewardship by supporting the church financially.
6. Personal evangelism among the lost, visitation of the sick and shut ins.
7. Help serve the Lord's Supper.
8. Pray in worship services.
9. Help with security.
10. Fulfill the requirements of the Family Ministry Plan.
11. Model the behavior of Christ to the world outside of FBC Waycross—to family, to business, and to community—so that your life draws others toward Christ and the church and not away from it.