

THE APOSTLE PAUL'S LETTERS TO
TIMOTHY

1 Timothy 3:1-7

The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. ² Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³ not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. ⁴ He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, ⁵ for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? ⁶ He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. ⁷ Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.

1 Timothy 3:8-13

⁸ Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. ⁹ They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. ¹⁰ And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. ¹¹ Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. ¹² Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. ¹³ For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

CHARACTER

Overseers

- “above reproach” (v. 2)
- “sober-minded” (v. 2)
- “respectable” (v. 2)
- “hospitable” (v. 2)
- “not a drunkard” (v. 3)
- “not violent, but gentle” (v. 3)
- “not quarrelsome” (v. 3)
- “not a lover of money” (v. 3)

Deacons

- “dignified” (v. 8)
- “not double-tongued” (v. 8)
- “not addicted to much wine” (v. 8)
- “not greedy for dishonest gain” (v. 8)
- “tested... prove themselves blameless” (v. 10)

FAITH

Overseers

- “must not be a recent convert”
(v. 6)

Deacons

- “must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience”
(v. 9)

COMPETENCE

Overseers

- “the husband of one wife”
(v. 2)
- “able to teach” (v. 2)
- “must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive” (v. 4)
- “well thought of by outsiders”
(v. 7)

“their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things” (v. 11)

Deacons

- “the husband of one wife”
(v. 12)
- “managing their children and their own households well”
(v. 12)

1 Timothy 3:14-16

¹⁴ I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that, ¹⁵ if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth. ¹⁶ Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:

He was manifested in the flesh,
vindicated by the Spirit,
seen by angels,
proclaimed among the nations,
believed on in the world,
taken up in glory.

- ❖ Good spiritual leaders are defined by their character, faith, and competence.
- ❖ The effect of leadership is demonstrated by the impression leaders usually make on the ones they lead.
- ❖ The mystery revealed in Jesus is reflected in his people.