

Heeding the Call for Godly Deacons

1. The Qualifications for Deacons

- **They must be dignified (like elders):**

- not double-tongued
- not addicted to much wine
- not greedy for dishonest gain

- **They must hold the mystery of the faith:**
with a clear conscience.

- **They must be tested first:**
& then let them serve as deacons if blameless.

- **They must be faithful with their family:**
in relationships & leadership.

- **Those who serve well gain a good standing:**
and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

2. The Priority of Women Deacons

- **Examples of “diakonos” in Scripture:**

- translated “servant” – Mk 10:43
- translated “deacons” – 1Ti 3:8
- translated “servant” – Ro 16:1
(Phoebe: a diakonos of the church)

→ possibly the “women” in 1Ti 3:11

- **Examples of Women serving in Diaconal Ministry:**

- Phoebe (Ro 16:1)
- Tryphena & Tryphosa (Ro 16:12)
- Dorcas (Ac 9:36)
- Euodia & Syntyche (Php 4:2-3)
- Women disciples (Lk 8:1-3)

3. Building up Deacons here at LRBC

- **Why do we proactively appoint women as deacons, & not as elders?**

- There are biblical examples of women referred to, & serving as, deacons (or serving in similar leadership roles).
- There are no biblical examples of women referred to, or serving as, elders.
- Because we cherish & need women leaders and godly male authority.

- **Do I have the heart of a deacon:**
and am I serving Christ & His church?