

# Deacon Ordination

1 Timothy 3:8–13 — “Those Who Serve Well”

## Serve the Lord

Colossians 3:23–24 — “Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.”

Your service must first be unto the Lord.

He is worthy of our service.

True freedom is found in becoming a servant to and for Christ.

Oh, there is no greater use of one’s life!

## Serve Their Souls (vv. 8–9)

You can’t pour from an empty cup.

Qualifications in verses 8–9:

- Dignified — worthy of respect.
- Double-tongued — sincere, not divisive.
- Not addicted to much wine.
- Not greedy — not using a spiritual office for personal gain.
- Holding the mystery of the faith — understanding the Word.

You must be diligent to keep watch over your own soul.

## Serve Their Family (vv. 11–12)

The home is your first ministry.

Serve them well.

Jessica and Emily, you’re in this too.

You will at times be called to serve alongside your husband.

Sometimes you’ll be privy to sensitive knowledge.

Even when you’re not actively serving, you’re still serving by sharing your husband’s ministry.

## Serve Their Church

It is a high calling to take care of God’s people.

It comes with the highest blessings and the darkest roads.

But God and your church have seen fit to bring you into this office.

God loves His Son's Bride—you must learn to love her in a new and deeper way.

You will know and feel her blemishes, but she is still the Bride of Christ.

## Small Group Discussion Questions

### 1. Serving the Lord

In what ways can we guard our hearts to ensure our service in the church is first unto the Lord and not merely for people? (Read Colossians 3:23–24 together.)

### 2. Serving Our Own Souls

Paul says deacons must “hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience” (1 Timothy 3:9). What are some practical ways we can nourish our own spiritual lives so that we're serving from overflow rather than exhaustion?

### 3. Serving at Home

How does faithfulness in our homes prepare us for faithfulness in the church? What are some ways spouses and families can support one another in ministry without growing weary?

### 4. Serving the Church

Deacons are called to love and care for Christ's Bride—even when the road is hard. How can we cultivate a deeper love for the church, especially when we encounter her “blemishes”?