



Gospel Life Communities Study Guide  
1 Timothy 3:8-13  
Essential Qualifications for Deacons

Welcome to the Fall 2023 GLC Season! I hope the Lord is blessing, challenging, and encouraging you through this sermon series thus far. Our weekly studies will have four parts, following the four categories that we've set for GLC's, and then end with prayer.

exploring

we will explore God's word together, looking at the actual words of the passage each week.

digging

we will dig deeper into the word, discussing the context and meaning of the passage.

growing

we will discuss how the passage is applied to our own lives.

going

we will discuss how the passage informs, challenges, and encourages our gospel witness.

exploring

Read through the passage together and take note of any words or phrases that catch your attention.



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

### digging

1. What is a deacon?
2. Read Acts 6:1-6 and discuss how the deacons served the church?
3. Compare and contrast the qualifications of elders in 3:1-7 with the qualifications of the deacons.

### growing

4. Imran explained 7 essential qualifications from 1 Tim. 3:8-13. Which of these do you find challenging to live out? And why?
5. How does the authority of overseers and deacons differ?
6. What is your understanding of verse 11 and why do you hold this position?

### going

7. How can you reflect the deacon-like qualities and serve the people around you?



### *Pray "Kingdom Prayers"*

Kingdom prayers are prayers that don't only focus on the immediate need, but also on God's glory. For example, if someone has a sore knee instead of just praying "God, please heal Betty's knee", you would pray something like "God, please heal Betty's knee so that she can continue to serve you and your people; so that she can continue attend worship services pain free and give you glory for your healing hand." See the difference?

Some ideas of what to pray for:

- Each other's needs/requests
- King Road's ministries, missionaries, members, and pastors
- Opportunities to share the gospel

