

1 Timothy
The Challenge of Being the Church
1 Timothy 3:8-13 (page 830)

Sunday, November 3, 2013

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So how is a deacon d i f f e r e n t from an elder?

- Elders, are servant leaders
(3:1-7; Acts 20:17, 28; 1 Peter 5:1-2)
- Deacons, are leading servants (3:8-13; Acts 6:1-7)

Deacon is translated from the word *diakeneo* which means
“s e r v i c e, servant, m i n i s t r y”

Deacons are to have s i m i l a r q u a l i t i e s as those of the
elders:

- demonstrate g o d l y character (v 8)
- demonstrate m a t u r i t y in the faith (vs 9-11; Matt 25:21)
 - The i s s u e in verse 11: Is this addressing “women” in
g e n e r a l or deacon’s “wives” in p a r t i c u l a r?
- demonstrate leadership in f a m i l y matters (v 12)
- demonstrates a willingness to s e r v e (v 13)

Deacons:

- s e r v e elders so that they can l e a d
- l e a d others so that they may s e r v e

Taking it in...

What is the distinction between an elder and a deacon, specifically
in their role in the church? _____

Are deacons less important than elders in the function of the
church? Why or why not? _____

Are women gifted and called for service in the church? Examine
verse 11 and all of the views that are proposed. What is your
conclusion? Why? _____

What is the response required of the church toward its leaders?
Explain. (See Heb 13:7;17; 1 Peter 5:5) _____

