

SAMPLE QUESTIONS FOR DEACON CANDIDATES

Adapted from *Deacons: How They Serve and Strengthen the Church* (Crossway, 2021) by Matt Smethurst.

Thank you very much for taking the time to answer these questions! It will greatly help us in thinking through who should serve our church as deacons. Because deacons are one of only two church “offices” described in Scripture, we take our deacon positions very seriously and want them to function well for the good of the church. So thanks again for your help in making that happen.

1. How long have you been a Christian? Give a brief account of your conversion.
2. Do you desire to be a deacon?
3. Do you think you have the experience and skills necessary to do the work for which the elders are considering nominating you?
4. If you are married, what does your spouse think about you serving as a deacon?
5. In what areas of service have you been involved in the life of the church?
6. Looking at 1 Timothy 3:8–13, do you think you meet the qualifications Paul lays out there for deacons?
7. Are you dignified? What do you think that means?
8. Are you double-tongued? What do you think that means?
9. Do you think you’re marked by greed?
10. Do you “hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience”? In other words, do you sincerely and solidly believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?
11. Do you think you’ve been tested in the life of the church? How? How do you think the “test” has gone?
12. Do you have a tendency to slander others, to speak ill of them in private, to gossip?
13. Are you sober-minded, able to “keep your head” in difficult situations? One of the most important roles of deacons is to be “shock absorbers” in the life of the church. Can you do that well?

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14. Are you faithful? Are you able to take responsibility for things and get them done in a timely fashion? How much of a procrastinator are you?
15. If you're married, how do you think you're doing in your role as husband/wife? As father/mother?
16. Read 1 Timothy 3:13. What do you think it will mean in your particular situation to "serve well as a deacon"? How do you think serving well as a deacon will increase your confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus?
17. Do you use social media of any kind (Twitter, Facebook, etc.)? How do you think Paul's description of a deacon applies to how a deacon, in particular, should engage social media?
18. Have you read our church constitution? Do you have any questions about the way our church functions? Will you be happy to abide by that constitution and defend and explain it to other members when necessary?