

In the Trenches

“ What God Requires to Be a Church Deacon ”

1. They Must Have Godly Character v. 8

2. Make Sure They Embrace the Bible v. 9-10



Grow Group Discussion Questions

A grow group is 8-16 people who get together weekly to study God's word and the previous Sunday's message. There is a time of discussion, support, encouragement, and learning how the message applies to daily life. **PCC uses the ESV (English Standard Version).**

HOW DO I JOIN A GROUP?

To learn more or join a group, visit pacificcoastchurch.org/gg/ or sign up at the patio Info Kiosk.

Point #1

- Read 1 Timothy 3:8. What does Deacon mean? Why was this role required in the 1st century church? (c.f., Acts 6:1-4)
- In your own words, explain each qualification required for a Deacon. How does this highlight Point #1?
- How is this different than an Overseer? (c.f., 1 Tim. 3:1-3) Why? What does this highlight about PCC Deacons?

Point #2

- Read 1 Timothy 3:9-10. Explain what it means to hold to the "mysteries of the faith". (i.e., The Bible)
- Why is this important to identify a Deacon? How does Point #2 help keep a church beautiful? Be specific.
- Explain how PCC recognizes Deacons. (i.e., 2-year guideline, leadership standard, etc.) How does this encourage you?

Daily Devotions

These are provided for mid-week personal spiritual growth. Prayerfully writing out your answers will help you experience real life transformation as you dig deeper into the spiritual truths of God's word and today's message.

A downloadable PDF of this document is also available each week at pacificcoastchurch.org/sermons.

MONDAY // Read 1 Timothy 3:8, Acts 6:1-4

- What does the word Deacon mean? What problem did the role of a Deacon solve in the New Testament church?
- Why would the size of a church require more Deacons? How do you see this taking place at PCC? Be specific.
- Given that PCC has 70+ Deacons, what does this highlight about what is required to run a beautiful church?

TUESDAY // Read 1 Timothy 3:1-3, 8, Galatians 5:22-24

- In your own words, explain the four qualifications listed for a Deacon in 1 Timothy 3:8. Be specific.
- How does this compare to the qualifications for an Overseer? How does this compare to the fruit of the Spirit?
- In what way do the qualifications reflect the role these positions play within the church? How does this adjust you?

WEDNESDAY // Read 1 Timothy 3:9, 2 Timothy 3:16

- In your own words, explain the 1 Timothy 3:9 qualification for a Deacon. How does this relate to the Bible?
- How is this qualification different than the Elder qualification of being "able to teach"? (c.f. 1 Timothy 3:2) Why?
- How does 1 Timothy 3:9 help vet a newer believer? Why is this so important in keeping a church beautiful?

THURSDAY // Read 1 Timothy 3:10, Acts 6:3, Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

- What is required in order to qualify as a Deacon in a beautiful church? (i.e., "tested") How does this take place?
- In what way does the Parable of the Sower highlight this truth? Be specific. Why is this important?
- How does PCC apply this truth? (i.e., 2-year guideline) How do you measure up to this guideline?

FRIDAY // Read 1 Timothy 3:10, Genesis 39:1-41:40

- Explain the progression that took place in the life of Joseph. (i.e., servant to Egyptian ruler)
- How was Joseph's godly character put on display? Be specific. How does this highlight 1 Timothy 3:10?
- What can happen if this truth isn't enforced or properly understood in today's churches? Give an example.

SATURDAY // Read 1 Timothy 3:8-10

- Explain how someone becomes a Deacon at PCC. How is it different than becoming an Elder? Why?
- How does the idea of you being a PCC Deacon make you feel? How does it encourage or challenge you?
- Take some time right now to pray about this topic. How is God promoting you to take some steps? Be specific.

MEDITATION VERSE: ⁸Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. ⁹They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. ¹⁰And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. 1 Timothy 3:8-10