

# Deaconess Qualifications Test

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An evaluation designed to help determine a woman's maturity, measured by the standards in I Timothy 3:11.

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John Hopley

## Acknowledgments

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# How To Use This Test

This is a tool to help discern whether a woman is qualified to be a deaconess.

For any individual who is seriously being considered for appointment, I would suggest that the test be taken by:

- 1) That person.
- 2) Pastors who know her.
- 3) The person's husband, roommate, or others who are close to the individual.

After this test is taken, I suggest that the results be discussed by the leadership and shared with the person whose life is being evaluated. The last page has further instructions on how to use the results.

# Test Questions

Name of individual being considered: \_\_\_\_\_

If the answer to the question is Yes, put a "1" in the space provided. Write a "0" if it is No. Record a "1" if the question does not apply (e.g., a question as to children and the person has none).

1. Is it true she does not do things that bring disrespect to herself or her family? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Can she be trusted with confidential information? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Does she, for the sake of others, deny herself liberties she otherwise could take? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Is she faithful with her duties (family, home, school and/or occupation)? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Do her peers respect her? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Is it true she does not gossip? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Is she self-controlled in her eating habits? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Is she on time for her appointments? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Is she aware of spiritual realities and appropriately serious? \_\_\_\_\_
10. When talking about other believers does she honor them in her speech? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Does she respond appropriately when confronted with discouraging circumstances? \_\_\_\_\_
12. Is she reliable regarding tasks that are given her by her husband and/or friends? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Does she treat sensitive matters in a sensitive, caring way? \_\_\_\_\_
14. Does she handle offenses and differences with others in a mature manner? \_\_\_\_\_
15. Is she able to break bad habits? \_\_\_\_\_
16. Is she faithful to complete the tasks given her through her small group or ministry in a timely and proper fashion? \_\_\_\_\_

# Qualifications Key

- A. Dignified
- B. Not A Malicious Gossip
- C. Temperate
- D. Faithful in all Things

# Definitions of Deaconess Qualifications

## A. DIGNIFIED

Verse: I Timothy 3:11

Definition: Greek word “semnos” means to be first reverent then serious, grave. The NIV translation: worthy of respect.

## B. NOT A MALICIOUS GOSSIP

Verse: I Timothy 3:11

Definition: Greek word “diabolos” means accusing falsely (an adjective). As a noun it’s translated slanders in the King James translation. The reference is to those who are given to finding fault with the demeanor and conduct of others and spreading their innuendo and criticisms in the church. NIV translation: not malicious talkers. Amplified Bible: not gossipers.

## C. TEMPERATE

Verse: I Timothy 3:11

Definition: Greek word “nephaios” means sober, circumspect, clear thinking, able to make sound judgment. Amplified Bible: temperate and self-controlled.

## D. FAITHFUL IN ALL THINGS

Verse: I Timothy 3:11

Definition: Greek word “pistos” means to be trusted, reliable, sure. NIV translation: trustworthy in everything. Amplified Bible: (thoroughly) trustworthy in all things.

# Deaconess Qualification Test

## Answer Sheet

Put a "1" or "0" next to each number according to how you answered the questions on the test. Add up the four answers horizontally and write the sum under the "TOTAL" column. Then use the Qualification Key on the next page to match each total to the appropriate qualifications.

								Total	Row	Qualification
1.		5.		9.		13.			A	
2.		6.		10.		14.			B	
3.		7.		11.		15.			C	
4.		8.		12.		16.			D	

# How To Evaluate The Test Results

1. First and foremost, understand that this is only a tool to help you evaluate if an individual is qualified to be a deaconess. Reliance on the Holy Spirit and much prayer is needed when considering the person's qualifications.
2. The following is a scale to determine a person's qualifications based on the number in the "Total" column on the answer sheet:
  - 0: Not Qualified
  - 1-2: Probably not qualified
  - 3: Perhaps qualified
  - 4: Qualified
3. The best way for the person being considered to use the results of this test is to take the one area of qualification in which there was a low rating and to devote herself to growing in that particular area. Directions and encouragement from the pastor(s) regarding her growth in that area should be an important part of the process.

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