DEACONS | QUALIFICATIONS SELF-ASSESSMENT



Scripture

2020-2021 | **DEACONS**

QUALIFICATIONS SELF-ASSESSMENT

Instructions:

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Respond to each question with a mark in the accompanying response box. To affirm means to "declare support for, uphold, and defend." If you do not affirm a question, leave that box blank.

Question

		ORIENTATION & SELF-ASSESSMENT	
1.1	1 Tim 3:1-13	I have read 1 Timothy 3:1-13 concerning qualifications for Overseers <u>and</u> Deacons.	
1.2	1 Tim 3:1-13	I have read the Teaching Focus packet and interpretations from 1 Timothy 3:1-13 concerning Overseers <u>and</u> Deacons.	
		1 TIMOTHY 3:8-13 DEACONS	
2	1 Tim 3:8	I affirm the understanding that Deacons work interdependently with (not independently from) Overseers to accomplish God's purpose in and through a local church.	
3	1 Tim 3:1,8; Phil 1:1	I affirm the understanding that Deacons and Overseers are distinct offices with distinct roles in the church.	
4	1 Tim 3:1, 8; Phil 1:1	I affirm the understanding that while Deacons and Overseers both serve, a Deacon is not an Overseer in title or function.	
5	1 Tim 3:8	I affirm Deacons must be dignified.	
6	1 Tim 3:8	I affirm Deacons must not be double-tongued.	
7	1 Tim 3:8	I affirm Deacons must not be addicted to much wine.	
8	1 Tim 3:8	I affirm Deacons must not be greedy for dishonest gain.	
9.1	1 Tim 3:9	I affirm Deacons must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.	

Response

#	Scripture	Question	Response
9.2	1 Tim 3:2, 9, 13	I affirm the understanding that Deacons do not bear the burden or responsibility of being "able to teach."	
9.3	1 Tim 3:9	I affirm the understanding that Deacons are to be teachable with a confidence in the revealed truths of the faith.	
9.4	1 Tim 3:9	I affirm the understanding that Deacons are to avoid false teachings and useless speculations.	
9.5	1 Tim 3:9	I affirm the understanding that Deacons are to be free from hypocrisy (meaning, their lives should agree with the Scriptures).	
10.1	1 Tim 3:10	I affirm Deacons are to be tested first, then allowed to serve if they prove themselves blameless.	
10.2	1 Tim 3:10	I affirm the understanding that a person does not become a Deacon <i>before</i> serving, but serves and <i>then</i> becomes a Deacon . Prior, blameless service is expected.	
11.1	1 Tim 3:11	I affirm Deacons' Wives must be dignified.	
11.2	1 Tim 3:11	I affirm Deacons' Wives must not be slanderers.	
11.3	1 Tim 3:11	I affirm Deacons' Wives must be sober-minded.	
11.4	1 Tim 3:11	I affirm Deacons' Wives must be faithful in all things.	
11.5	1 Tim 3:11-12	I affirm the understanding that serving as a Deacon places Scriptural expectations upon my wife, children and household. Because of this, I understand that Deacon service must be undertaken with their knowledge and support.	
11.6	1 Tim 3:11	I affirm the understanding and expectation that a Deacon's Wife <i>affirms</i> , <i>protects</i> and <i>reflects</i> her husband's character, reputation and testimony.	
12.1	1 Tim 3:12	I affirm Deacons must be the husband of one wife.	
12.2	1 Tim 3:12	I affirm the understanding that an unmarried or widowed Deacon should proceed carefully and prayerfully in Deacon service, not neglecting the demands his own household requires on his time and attention.	
		1 Timothy 5:8 (ESV) 8 But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.	

#	Scripture	Question	Response
12.3	1 Tim 3:12	I affirm the understanding that it would not be prudent for an unmarried or widowed Deacon to serve as a Deacon if he is open to, or considering marrying (or re-marrying) during the course of his Deacon service.	
12.4	1 Tim 3:12	I affirm Deacons must manage their children and their own households well.	
13.1	1 Tim 3:13	I affirm that Deacons who serve well gain a good standing for themselves.	
13.2	1 Tim 3:13	I affirm that Deacons who serve well gain a great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.	
13.3	1 Tim 3:13	I affirm the understand that Deacon service is a work that requires faith.	

		OVERSEER & DEACON DISTINCTIVES	
14	Titus 1:7	I affirm the understanding that stewardship (management, administration) of God's house is given <u>not</u> to Deacons , but to Overseers.	
15	Titus 1:9-13	I affirm the understanding that instructing in sound doctrine and rebuking when necessary is work given <u>not</u> to Deacons but to Overseers.	
16	Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 2:25	I affirm the understanding that caring for souls is work given <u>not</u> to Deacons but to Overseers.	

	O	WNERSHIP & AUTHORITY OF THE CHURCH	
17	Acts 20:28	I affirm the understanding that church belongs to God.	
		1 Timothy 3:5–6 (ESV) ⁵ for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? ⁶ He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. Acts 20:28 (ESV) ²⁸ Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the	
		church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.	

#	Scripture	Question	Response
18	Col 1:18	I affirm that Christ is the head of the Church. Colossians 1:18 (ESV) 18 And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.	
19	1 Pt 5:1-5; 1 Pt 2:25; Acts 20:28	I affirm the following concerning God's design for authority and responsibility in the Church: that Jesus is the Chief Shepherd & Overseer followed by Holy Spirit appointed under-shepherds who oversee. 1 Peter 5:1–5 (ESV) 5 So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: 2 shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; 3 not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. 4 And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. 5 Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." 1 Peter 2:25 (ESV) 25 For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls. Acts 20:28 (ESV) 28 Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.	
20	Eph 4:11-12	I affirm the following concerning God's gift to His Church of appointed roles and purpose: Ephesians 4:11–12 (ESV) ¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,	

		NATURE OF SERVICE IN THE CHURCH	
21	Mt 20:25-28	I affirm the understanding that Jesus is the model servant.	
		Matthew 20:25–28 (ESV) ²⁵ But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ²⁶ It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ²⁷ and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, ²⁸ even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."	
22	John 12:26	I affirm the understanding that <i>serving</i> Jesus requires also <i>following</i> Jesus.	
		John 12:26 (ESV) ²⁶ If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.	
23	Rom 16:1-2; Mt 27:55-56	I affirm the understanding that while this packet assumes Deacons are men, the Scriptures do not limit service to the Lord or service in the Church to men only. In this way, Deacons model service that is expected of all in the Church.	
		Romans 16:1–2 (ESV) 16 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church at Cenchreae, ² that you may welcome her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints, and help her in whatever she may need from you, for she has been a patron of many and of myself as well.	
		Matthew 27:55–56 (ESV) 55 There were also many women there, looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him, 56 among whom were Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.	

#	Scripture	Question	Response

		ACTS 6:1-7 DEACONS	
24.1	Acts 6:1-7	I affirm the understanding that Acts 6:1-7 offers helpful insight into the purpose, process of selection, appointment, and work of Deacons .	
24.2	Acts 6:1-7	I affirm the understanding that a Deacon is not a complainer, but a solution to complaints through appointed service.	
24.3	Acts 6:7	I affirm the understanding that Deacons are a meaningful component of disciples being multiple through the local church.	
24.4	Acts 6:3, 5-6	I affirm the understanding that the Deacons in Acts 6 were appointed by the twelve to a specific duty and affirmed by the whole of the disciples.	
24.5	Acts 6:3, 5	I affirm the understanding that a Deacon should be full of the Spirit and of wisdom, and of faith.	

	IDENTITY OF JESUS			
26	Mt 16:15-17	I affirm the following concerning Jesus and confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God by faith.		
		Matthew 16:15–17 (ESV) 15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.		

	TES	STIMONY OF SALVATION & GOSPEL WITNESS	
27	Rom 10:8-11	I affirm the following concerning salvation, I confess with my mouth Jesus is Lord and believe in my heart God raised him from the dead, with faith.	
		Romans 10:8–11 (ESV) 8 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); 9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. 11 For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."	
28	1 Cor 15:1-4	I affirm the following concerning the Gospel and live by it:	
		1 Corinthians 15:1–4 (ESV) 15 Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ² and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. ³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,	

#	Scripture	Question	Response
		BAPTISM	
29	Rom 6:1-4; Mt 28:19-20	I affirm the following concerning baptism, have obeyed the command of the Lord and have been baptized into Christ Jesus to walk in newness of life.	
		Romans 6:1–4 (ESV) 6 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. Matthew 28:19–20 (ESV) ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."	
30.1	1 Cor 12:12-13	I affirm the following concerning baptism, church membership, unity in the Holy Spirit, and reject division in the church of all kinds. 1 Corinthians 12:12–13 (ESV) 12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.	
30.2	1 Cor 12:12-13	I affirm that I am a visible member of Christ's body through active membership with Southside Baptist Church.	

Scripture Question Response

		NEWNESS OF LIFE IN CHRIST	
31	2 Tim 3:12	I affirm the following and desire to live a godly life.	
		2 Timothy 3:12 (ESV) 12 Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,	
32	Rom 12:1-2	I affirm the following and present my body in this way.	
		Romans 12:1–2 (ESV) 12 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.	

	GOD'S WORD			
33	2 Tim 3:16-17	I affirm the following concerning God's Word:		
		2 Timothy 3:16–17 (ESV) ¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.		
34	Hebrews 4:12	I affirm the following concerning God's Word:		
		Hebrews 4:12 (ESV) ¹² For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.		
35	John 17:17	I affirm the following concerning God's Word:		
		John 17:17 (ESV) 17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.		

	SERVING IN TITHES & OFFERINGS			
36.1	Matt 6:19-21	I affirm the following concerning treasures.		
		Matthew 6:19–21 (ESV) 19 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.		
36.2	Matt 6:19-21	I affirm the understanding that treasures (including our time, money and other possessions) indicate where our heart is.		
36.3	Matt 6:19-21	I affirm the understanding that a Deacon should have a heart for God's Church which informs <i>service</i> in the local church and <i>support</i> of the local church.		
37.1	Mal 3:8-10; Lk 11:42	I affirm the following concerning tithes and offerings. Malachi 3:8–10 (ESV) Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. The Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. Luke 11:42 (ESV) 42 "But woe to you Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and every herb, and neglect justice and the love of God. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.		
37.2	Mt 6:19-21; Mal 3:8-10; Lk 11:42	I affirm that at a minimum, I willing practice tithing, giving 10% of my financial income to God through Southside Baptist Church.		
37.3	Mt 6:19-21; Mal 3:8-10; Lk 11:42	In tithing financially (at a minimum), I affirm the understanding that I am setting an example by faith that my heart is with the Lord and His local church that I serve.		
37.4	Mt 6:19-21; Mal 3:8-10; Lk 11:42	I affirm the understanding that tithing is not the only measure of my heart, but that I also have a concern for doing what is right and loving God.		

#	Scripture	Question	Response
38.1	2 Cor 9:6-7	I affirm the following concerning the attitude of a giver.	
		2 Corinthians 9:6–7 (ESV) ⁶ The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.	
38.2	2 Cor 9:6-7	I affirm the understanding that tithing is a standard and the New Testament increases that standard to generosity. I give cheerfully and generously as an investment in the work of ministry through the local church.	

	SERVING IN PRESENCE			
39.1	Heb 10:24-25	I affirm the following concerning gatherings of the church.		
		Hebrews 10:24–25 (ESV) ²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.		
39.2	Heb 10:24-25	I gather for (large group) worship with the church unless providentially hindered.		
393	Heb 10:24-25	I gather for (small group) community (being a part of a Sunday School class or other small group in the church).		
39.4	Heb 10:24-25	I am committed to Southside Baptist Church in ongoing membership.		

		SERVING IN PRAYER	
40	1 These 5:16-18	I affirm the following about prayer and thanksgiving.	
		1 Thessalonians 5:16–18 (ESV) 16 Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.	

	SERVING IN SUPPORT			
41.1	Heb 13:17	I affirm the following concerning leadership of God's people.		
		Hebrews 13:17 (ESV) 17 Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.		
41.2	Heb 13:17	I affirm support of and submission to Pastor Christopher's Scriptural leadership and oversight as Pastor of Southside Baptist Church. I do this in recognition of clear God-given responsibilities for his calling (including leading by faith, caring for souls, and giving account) and the unanimous affirmation of the church that affirmed God's provision for him to serve as Pastor.		
42	Mt 18:15-17	I affirm the following process for addressing sin within the church and recognize my responsibility to go to a brother who has sinned against me first and tell him his fault alone. Matthew 18:15–17 (ESV) 15 "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. 16 But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. 17 If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.		