

HOUSE RULES

¹Timothy 3:8-16

Radically Ordinary

⁸ In the same way, deacons are to be worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. ⁹ They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. ¹⁰ They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons.

¹² A deacon must be faithful to his wife and must manage his children and his household well. ¹³ Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus.

Elders	Deacons
Above Reproach	
Faithful to his wife	Faithful to his wife
Temperate	
Self-controlled	
Respectable	Worthy of respect
Hospitable	
Able to teach	
Not given to drunkenness	Not given to much wine
Not violent	
Gentle	
Not quarrelsome	
Not a lover of money	Not pursuing dishonest gain
Manage his family well	Manage his household well
Children obey with respect	
Not a recent convert	
Good reputation	

Additional Qualifications

- Sincere
- Hold on to deep truth with a clear conscience
- Tested

What do Deacons do

- Today:
 - Synonymous with trustee in some settings
 - Finances
 - Facilities
 - Grounds

What do Deacons do

- In the New Testament –
 - Appointed to oversee mercy ministries in the church at Jerusalem (Acts 6:1-6)

“In the same way, the women are to be worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything.

What Women?

- The wives of the deacons
- A separate office with distinct qualifications

Context

¹⁴ Although I hope to come to you soon, I am writing you these instructions so that, ¹⁵ if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

House Rules

- This is God's household and he sets the rules.
- Our adherence to these rules impacts our ministry in a changing culture.
- We are what we are because we have a foundation of truth.

So What

- Who establishes the rules that you live by?
- Are rules inconsistent with grace?
- What do others think of God based on your commitment to His rules?