



NASHVILLE
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Qualifications of a Deacon

The principal scriptural foundation for the qualifications of a deacon may be found in I Timothy 3:8-13. A deacon is not selected to be honored but to be a servant. The deacon not only serves in pastoral ministries but in the total ministry of the church. To qualify for the office of active deacon in First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee, one should:

- Be a person saved through faith in Christ.
- Be a person who possesses a Christian purpose and compassion; who sets a high standard of Christian family living; and who demonstrates positive spiritual attitudes in all work, social and church relationships.
- Be a person of good report; sober; not greedy; led by the Holy Spirit; full of wisdom and faith; and sustaining an active prayer life.
- Be a person who is faithful in attending the Sunday and Wednesday worship services; in participating in the evangelistic and educational programs of the church; in supporting the financial plan of the church through personal stewardship; and in attending deacons meeting.
- Be a person who is willing to engage in the organized proclaiming, caring and leading ministries of the church. These ministries include witnessing to the lost; ministering to assigned members of the church, especially the sick and the bereaved; and assisting the pastor in observing the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.
- Be a person who believes, studies, and applies to life the inspired Word of God, subscribing to The Baptist Faith and Message adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1963.
- Be an adult 21 years of age or older who has been a faithful and active member of this church for at least the last 12 consecutive months.