



Church Adopted Qualifications for Deacons

_____ Baptist Church, Florida

Deacons

Leadership and Life
Development

Florida Baptist
Convention

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Section _____ Church Adopted Qualifications for Deacons

A deacon must meet the following qualifications:

1. He must be a born again believer in Christ.
2. He must above all meet the Biblical qualifications, 1 Timothy 3:8-13 and Acts 6:1-6
3. He must live a consecrated Christian life, bringing no reproach by his conduct upon the Church or the cause of Christ.
4. He must be willing to abstain from the use of and sale of alcohol as a beverage.
5. He must have a compassion for lost souls and the ability to lead a person to Christ He should be evangelistic and missionary in spirit and deeply interested in the salvation of souls at home and abroad.
6. He must be willing to assume other elected positions of leadership in the Church.
7. He must be willing to be faithful in attendance at all regular services of the church, attending Sunday morning, Sunday night Wednesday night and all special church activities unless hindered by some reason which is approved by a good conscience.
8. He must be willing to support and promote all programs and organizations of the church and refrain from backbiting and criticizing which would be hurtful to the Church and the Kingdom of God.
9. He must be willing to support Church programs when decisions are adopted by a majority vote even though he may have voted with the minority.
10. He must be willing to work in harmonies, supportive relationship with the Pastor, as well as other staff members an elected leadership of the Church.
11. He must be a tither and should return his tithe to the Lord through the _____ Baptist Church.

He must be willing to serve a deacon candidate must be years of age in order to fulfill the Biblical mandate "first be proved" 1 Timothy 3:10. A novice Christian should not be considered for deacon.

A deacon candidate must have been a member of the church for years in order for the individual to understand and observe the policies and procedures of the churches administration and ministry. This policy holds true whether the person has been ordained as deacon in another Southern Baptist Church.

Section ____ Church Adopted Qualifications for Deacons

A deacon candidate must be a person who works well with people. Because a deacon's ministry is a ministry to people, the deacon's ability to get along with people is an important consideration. An individual who knows how to get along with people will demonstrate the qualities of love, patience, understanding, compassion, and sensitivity.

A deacon candidate must show the potential for developing an effective ministry. A deacon candidate must be a person who is willing to serve. Deacon election and ordination is not just "an honor." It is a call from God and a charge from the church to assume a servant's role. Individuals being considered, as deacons should be encouraged to pray and to consider whether they are willing to make the commitment called for.

Section ____ Election of Deacons

Method of Selection of a Deacon Selection Committee:

The Deacon Selection Committee will be composed of five members. The church shall select three members and two members shall be deacons. The Committee will make nominations as needed identifying those who are worthy and qualified to serve and be ordained as Deacons The Committee will be guided by church adopted qualifications for deacons found in Section _____ of Article _ of the Church By-laws when selecting candidates to become deacons. Church members may also recommend individuals they think qualified to become deacons to the Deacon Selection Committee for consideration.

Each person nominate will be given a Deacon Qualification Questionnaire, and will be asked to return this form completed to the Deacon Selection Committee. Upon receiving this form the Deacon Selection Committee will interview each candidate. the interviews are confidential.

Nominations shall equal the number of Deacons who will rotate off the Deacon Council each year and other vacancies which may have occurred during the year. the Selection Committee will make their recommendations to fill vacancies to the church and the deacons will be elected by secret ballot.

[See Sample Deacon Qualification Questionnaire](#)

Deacon Qualification Questionnaire

1. When did you accept Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord?

 2. Do you hold the conviction that your conversion experience can be described by the New Testament term "born again"?
 Yes No
 3. Do you believe the Bible to be God's inspired, written Word?
 Yes No
 4. Will you and your spouse strive to meet the biblical qualification of 1 Timothy 3:8-13?
 Yes No
 5. Do you believe in the commands of evangelism and missions found in the Scriptures?
 Yes No
 6. Are you in good fellowship with your fellow church members?
 Yes No
 7. Do you attend the following as a regular practice?
 - a. Sunday morning worship ___
 - b. Sunday evening worship ___
 - c. Mid-week prayer meeting ___
 - d. Sunday School _____
 - e. Church Training _____
 8. Do you recognize that the deacon is a minister and not a manager of the church's affairs?
 Yes No
 9. Will you make every effort to attend each meeting of the deacon body?
 Yes No
 10. Will you commit yourself to a growing spiritual life?
 Yes No
 11. Will you commit yourself to train yourself in deacon ministry, understandings and scriptures?
 Yes No
 12. After reading the biblical and church qualifications, do you know any reason you should not be elected as a deacon?
 Yes No
Explain: _____

 13. When you can no longer affirm the qualifications for a deacon, do you agree to remove yourself or accept removal upon action of the church?
 Yes No
 14. After considering the matter carefully and prayerfully, will you allow your name to be submitted in nomination to serve as a deacon and will you serve if elected?
 Yes No
- Signature of Deacon: _____
Date: _____

Election/Ordination/Emeritus

Elections of Deacons:

At the business meeting in _____ each year the church will select the Deacon Selection Committee. Between the _____ and _____ business meetings, church members may make recommendations to the Deacon Selection Committee of individuals they want to be considered for deacon. The Deacon Selection Committee will announce their nominees at the _____ business meeting and the names of the nominees shall be published in the Church Bulletin for three consecutive Sundays in. The church will vote on the nominees on the fourth Sunday in ____ by secret ballot. If a person who has not been ordained is elected by the church, an ordination service will be conducted as soon as possible.

There shall be one Deacon for approximately _____ family units of the resident members of the church.

Section ____ The Ordination of New Deacons

The Deacons shall serve on a rotation basis. Each year the term of office of one third of the number of Deacons shall expire, and election shall be held to fill the vacancies.

If any person is elected to the Deacon Council who has not been ordained as a Deacon of this Church, then a committee composed of the Pastor and selected Deacons will sit down with this person and family in an effort to thoroughly acquaint them with the scriptural qualifications demanded of one who hold the high office of Deacon. If this person, with his family feel they can meet these requirements, then an ordination service shall be conducted as soon as possible. If they feel they are not ready to meet these requirements, then the person receiving the next largest number of votes at the election of Deacons shall be considered elected.

Section ____ Emeritus Deacon

Any Deacon of the _____ Baptist Church of _____, who by reason of ages, health, personal or otherwise wishes to not continue to serve as an active deacon, bay by his written request to the Deacon Council be moved to the Emeritus Status. The Council may grant this request by recommending to the Church that this be done at the regular time for the selecting of Deacons. If his condition or desire changes at a later time and he wishes to become active again, he may make his request known to the Deacon Council, asking that his status be changed. He then would be eligible for selection by the Church to serve as an active Deacon at the next regular Deacon selection, according to the above By-Laws.

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Please contact the **Leadership and Life Development Department** for further information. ~ 800.226.8584 extension 3070 ~

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