

Deacon Questionnaire

The Deacon Ministry of
East Shore Baptist Church,
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Form 414-02
Revised: 03/01/2005

AN OVERVIEW OF THE QUALIFICATIONS AND DUTIES OF AN EAST SHORE BAPTIST CHURCH DEACON

BIBLICAL / PRACTICAL QUALIFICATIONS OF A DEACON

The word "Deacon" means servant or minister and came to be used by the Church to designate a special position in the Church. The Deaconship, therefore, signifies a position of special Christian service. Both the Scripture and the dignity of the office demand a person of the highest spiritual, moral and practical qualifications:

1. SPIRITUAL QUALIFICATIONS (ACTS 6:1-6)

- A. Full of the Holy Spirit.
- B. Full of Wisdom.
- C. Full of Faith.

2. MORAL QUALIFICATIONS (I TIMOTHY 3: 8-10, 12-13)

- A. Worthy of respect
- B. Sincere
- C. Not indulging in much wine
- D. Not pursuing dishonest gain
- E. The husband of one wife
- F. Manages his children and household well, giving evidence of spiritual leadership in the home and modeling the biblical family (see Article XVIII, of the "*The Baptist Faith and Message*", June 14, 2000).

PRACTICAL DUTIES

GENERAL: Deacons represent an extension of the Pastoral Ministry and are considered as leader-servants of the Church. According to the teachings in Acts 6:1-6, the following principles of service defines the practical duties of the Deacons of East Shore Baptist Church.

In accordance with the meaning of the word of the New Testament, Deacons are to recognize their roles as ministering servants of the Church. They are to be members of this Church whose character and qualifications shall be as specified in I Timothy 3:8-13 and Acts 6:1-6.

The **practical duties** unique to East Shore Baptist Church are the following:

1. To assist the Ministerial Staff with secondary responsibilities in order that they may spend more time in prayer and in the ministry of the Word. (For example, with the Visitation Ministry, and Church committees in administration matters, ministry to the sick & needy, evangelism among the lost, etc.).
2. To give attention to the needs of the membership, especially to widows (ref appendix A).
3. To assist in resolving problems which arise within the East Shore Baptist Church fellowship and work toward unity.
4. To be examples within the fellowship of wisdom, spirituality, faithfulness, and of good character.
5. To provide loyal support for the Pastor(s).
6. By having faithful attendance at Church services.
7. To encourage and participate in the organizations of the Church - Sunday School, Music, Outreach, Children's Ministries, Joy Club, etc.
8. To display a consistent commitment to stewardship and the giving of self.
9. To lead the Church in the achievement of its mission.
10. To provide personal evangelism among the lost, visitation of the sick, care for shut-ins, and the encouragement of the indifferent.
11. To have regular attendance at Deacon meetings.
12. To participate in men's mentoring program.
13. To participate in the Deacon of the Day duties which includes participation in the service as required and taking responsibility for securing the Church after services on Sunday.
14. To maintain a high level of confidentiality with information relating to issues which may arise within the Deacon Ministry.

SPECIFIC DUTIES

The **specific duties** unique to East Shore Baptist Church fall into three categories: Family Ministry; Spiritual Leadership; and Men's Mentoring.

1. Family Ministry

Consistent with Biblical teaching, the foundational role of the Deacon is service to the needy. Today, the needy can be parties with long term needs, such as: widows, shut ins, the infirmed, or families and individuals experiencing short term needs resulting from illness, financial or family crisis. Refer to appendix A for a guide, which may be useful in determining the level of need and response level for dealing with families in your Family Ministry. To assist in these needs, the Deacon Body confidentially administers a benevolence program, in addition to active and practical service.

In addition to the care for the needy, Deacons at East Shore are called to assist in new family Church integration. In this work, Deacons are to actively seek to integrate and encourage new attendees to become regular attendees; to then move from regular attendance to members; and from membership to ministry leadership.

2. Spiritual Leadership

In that scripture, as well as the Church body, see Deacons as spiritual leaders, Deacons at East Shore Baptist Church must lead by being a visible presence at Church gatherings and services. In addition to being a visible presence, as spiritual leaders, Deacons at East Shore Baptist Church are expected to be engaged in active evangelistic service, such as: teaching, preaching, and evangelistic outreach.

As spiritual leaders, the Deacon Body at East Shore Baptist Church supports the Pastoral staff by serving as a confidential sounding board, and by providing feedback to guard Church unity. Deacons are also expected to lead through public prayer, service of the Lord's Supper, and as administrators of membership accountability.

3. Men's Mentoring

Understanding that Godly paternal leadership is critical for the spiritual health of families, the adoption of lifetime Christian principles in children, and growth of this Church, Deacons at East Shore Baptist Church are biblically called to focus on the spiritual development of men. In this work, Deacons are to mentor, encourage, and spur men in the love and care of their family; in spiritual development; and in servant-hood through participation in projects.

EAST SHORE BAPTIST CHURCH DEACON QUESTIONNAIRE

Name: _____ Date: _____

Birthdate: _____ Date Joined East Shore: _____

Joined by: Letter Statement Baptism Other

Please attach a photograph
in this area.
(Optional)

Please briefly describe your salvation experience and name of Church where you were baptized.

Have you ever been ordained as a Deacon? Yes No

If yes, give name of Church:

Do you feel you can conscientiously support
the total church program? Yes No

Are you willing to serve as a Deacon? Yes No

Have you read the qualifications of a Deacon in Acts 6:1-7 and I Timothy 3? Yes No

Has your wife read these Scriptures? (Please read them carefully together). Yes No

Are you faithful in your stewardship by tithing to East Shore Baptist Church? Yes No

Do you currently have a daily quiet time? Yes No

Will you be able to actively participate in any Outreach Ministry of East Shore Baptist Church? Yes No

If not, why? _____

Are you willing to abide by the Church constitution/bylaws? Yes No

Would you be willing to give a testimony before the church and submit to the questioning of an ordaining council? Yes No

Would you object to this questionnaire being reviewed by the Deacon Confirmation Committee? (Your response will be kept confidential by this committee.) Yes No

Do you adhere to the "*Baptist Faith and Message*" adopted in 2000 by the Southern Baptist Convention as far as you know? Yes No

Can you be faithful in attendance at the regular monthly Deacon meetings? Yes No

One of the responsibilities for a Deacon is to be available to assist the Pastor(s) in receiving new members at the worship services. Would you make yourself available to assist the pastor(s) after being trained?

Yes No

Would your wife?

Yes No

Have you ever been trained to share your faith?

Yes No

If yes, what training did you receive?

Four Spiritual Laws

Roman Road

Continuing Witnessing Training

Marked New Testament

Evangelism Explosion

Power Band

Other _____

Would you be willing to accept "Deacon of the Day" assignments as outlined in the Deacon Handbook?

Yes No

Do you personally feel that you provide loving, godly leadership for your home, and that you are committed to managing your children with Christ-like principles?

Yes No

Please list below the areas where you feel you are spiritually gifted, are serving or desire to serve in the life of our Church: (e.g., worship service, Bible Study, choir, outreach, etc.)

Please briefly give your views on the following and cite Scripture references:

- State your belief about salvation and what you believe about the security of the believer:

- What do you believe about the authority and inspiration of the Scripture?

- In your opinion, what is the mission of the Church?

- What do you believe the Bible teaches about the Deacon's responsibilities to the home?

- Briefly explain who the Holy Spirit is, and what He does for believers and what it means to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

Remarks or comments on any of the previous questions:

Signature

Date