**Serving is More About "Who" You ARE Than "What" You DO
God's Character plan for those who serve in our midst as deacons-Part II
(Pastor John Mulligan)**

1 Timothy 3:8-15 (ESV)

Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain.9 They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. 10 And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. 11 Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. 12 Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. 13 For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

14 I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that, 15 if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth.

**Appreciating the Character & Consistency of an Open Arms Deacon:**

**1) He is respected and respectful    (v.8a)**

     *“*Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued*…”*

**2) He is self-controlled and content   (v.8b)**

     *“…N*ot addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain....*."*

**3) We walks with Christ-endures trials and testing with faithfulness  (v.9-10)**

     *“*They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. 10 And let them      also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless.*”*

**4) He is devoted to a respectful and committed wife    (v.11-12a)**

     *“*Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. 12 Let deacons each be the husband of one wife.... *”*

**5) He manages the spiritual oversight of his children and finances well      (v.12b)**

*“…*managing their children and their own households well."