

## GUIDELINES FOR DEACON SELECTION

Deacons are not rulers of the church, but, rather, they are called to be "servants of the church." Deacons have as one of their responsibilities the welfare of and ministry to church members. This service expects Deacons to be of the highest spiritual and moral quality and be one of the most deeply concerned groups in the church. To be selected as a Deacon is a high honor and significant responsibility and requires one who serves in this position to be an example in spirit, love, devotion, and loyalty in every realm of the program of Jesus Christ through his church.

- I. The office of Deacon is one of the highest calls to service offered by Mountain Brook Baptist Church. There are qualifications set forth in the Bible. These are primarily found in Acts 6:1-7 and I Timothy 3:8-13. Though there is not always complete agreement on what certain verses mean, every effort should be made to live out the biblical conception of Deacon.
- II. There are several practical standards recognized by Mountain Brook Baptist Church.
  - A. The Deacon should be at least 30 years of age.
  - B. The Deacon should be a member of Mountain Brook Baptist Church at least two (2) years.
  - C. The Deacon should be a consistent personal witness to the unsaved and to other Christians in their pilgrimage.
  - D. The Deacon should support the church by giving of time, talents, tithe, and prayer.
    1. Time: The Deacon should be a faithful and loyal supporter of the entire church program and should attend all regular and special called meetings of the Deacons, unless hindered by some good reason, which is approved by a good conscience.
    2. Talents: The Deacon should exercise God-given gifts through appropriate service in the church.
    3. Tithe: According to Scripture, the Deacon should tithe his/her income through the church.
    4. Prayer: Prayer should be a part of the Deacon's daily schedule.
  - E. The Deacon should establish an exemplary lifestyle. The Deacon's conduct should at all times be the type that will bring honor to the name and cause of Christ and be a credit to the church and community in which he or she lives. His or her social and moral standards should be above question.
  - F. The Deacons, after election and before service begins, should attend an orientation offered by the church on the office of a Deacon and the Deacon's obligations and responsibilities.