

I Corinthians 1:20-31

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹ so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

August 25, 2024

Today's Order of Service:

- Corporate Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:20-31
- Doxology Old 100th
- Simple Theology: 32-36
- Speak O' Lord

Teaching: 1 Timothy 3:8-16

- Collection of Tithes and Offerings
- I Know that My Redeemer Lives
- Nothing but the Blood
- Solid Rock
- Numbers 6:24

Upcoming Sermon Topics and Events: (also see website)

August 25 – Trellis & The Vine: 1 Timothy 3:8-16
September 1 – Trellis & The Vine: 1 Timothy 4:1-16
September 8 – Trellis & The Vine: 1 Timothy 5:1-16
September 15 – Trellis & The Vine: 1 Timothy 5:17-25
September 22 – Trellis & The Vine: 1 Timothy 6:1-10
September 29 – Trellis & The Vine: 1 Timothy 6:11-21

GROWING TOGETHER SERIES: August 14, 21, 28. We will be taking three Wednesday evenings to talk about our beliefs together as a Church. Join us at 7pm Shepherd of the Hills Church

GROWTH GROUPS: Growth groups will start meeting in homes September 18th, going over sermons and seeking to apply God's Word Practically. If you are not in a Group and would like to be, please talk with Robb Besosa.

THE WORKSHOP: Men's Bible Study. Meet's the FIRST Sunday morning of every month at 7:30 a.m. Meeting location: 460 Salt Creek Road. Next Meeting: September 1st at 7:30am.

LIVE STREAMING: If you cannot attend in person, you can join us by clicking the button on our home page at vineandbranch.family

EMAIL LIST: If you attend regularly and want to be kept updated on church information and events provide your email to Ian Smith; lansmith@ianlabs.com.

MISSIONARIES and MINISTRIES:

- **Rajan & Helen Nehemiah**
Agape Christian Mission – India; Agapemissionindia.org
- **John & Brittany Bagatya**
YWAM Hopeland Base, Uganda; Bagatya.wordpress.com
- **40 Days for Life:** 40daysforlife.com

Please check out <https://vineandbranch.family/> for a more detailed calendar, weekly sermon series and study passages, events and to access previous sermons.

"*Deacons likewise...*" = "In this same way/manner." Therefore we carry forward the **spirit and mindset** that elders/overseers must possess in application to deacons.

Defining the Role of Deacon: *Deacons are an official office in the church. They are chosen and tested by the elders and the church family. Deacons use their gifts, taking initiative to tangibly **assist the elders**, and create margin for them by: Organizing, coordinating, solving, and facilitating. Primarily the **deacons exemplify - in word and action** - a culture of **intentional service and unity**. In this, the deacons help bear the heavy pastoral burdens of their church, lead through example, and thereby practically aid the Word of God to find root and flourish in the life of the church family.*

- V. 3:11 "*Their wives likewise...*" = the women referred to in 1 Timothy 3:11 are the **wives of deacons**.
- Paul exposites Genes 2/3, and **concludes BIBLICALLY** - not **culturally that** wives are unable to assist their husbands in the unique duties of elders: **Teaching God's Word authoritatively**, preserving **doctrinal purity**, defending against heresy, and **absorbing responsibility** of the souls of people.

The role of deacon is different (primarily that of service and unity):

- **Formal Assistants:** Deacons support the work of the Gospel by meeting practical needs under the guidance of and within a working-team alongside the elders (PVE p. 52)¹
- **Exemplary Servants:** Deacons are men who routinely and naturally serve regardless of title or position. They are known by the community as an example and model of service and submission.
- **Unity Preservers:** Deacons love solutions more than drama and have a knack for practically solving logistical and relational problems. More specifically, solving problems to **safeguard unity** of the church family.

In these ways, **the wives of deacons can, even must have the character and capacity to serve their husband in his duties as deacon**. For this task, deacons' wives must have the qualifications necessary as Paul directs (v.11).

Two Helpful elements of this understanding:

1. This view highlights the **significance, impact, and centrality of the role deacons in the church**.
2. This highlights **the significance of women serving in the church**. (1 Cor 14:12, Eph4:12)

Three descriptive phrases to capture what the Timothy should be aiming for in the church:

1. "**Household of God.**" Within these types of multi-faceted household structures, clear roles and responsibilities were essential for smooth function.
2. "**Church of the living God**" The church is **GOD'S assembly, His gathering**. The **emphasis** is on **God who is alive**. The church gathers around the living God, and has His Spirit within them.
3. "**The pillar and foundation of the truth**" God has designated **the church as guardian and proclaimer of the truth**. The church provides the framework for **safeguarding truth and living its claims**. (Eph. 2:20). **Central to the truth of the gospel is the transformed life of the Christian**.

Paul ends this section with a confessional Hymn = The result of Christians living out **The Truth** is a preaching where Jesus Christ is "**believed on in the world... and Glorified.**"

Application:

1. **Long for the Kingdom:**
2. **Trust His Design:**
3. **Know your Job, do you Job, Do your job generously:** (Neh. 6, March 24, Nik Borisuk)

¹ Alexander Strauch, Paul's Vision for the Elders