

Women of Purpose

The Pastoral Letters

- overseer, bishop, shepherd, pastor

presbyteros ('elder')
episkopos ('bishop')

- Qualifications of an elder
- Deacons
- Women as Deacons?
- How to act in the local church
- The Mystery of Godliness



DIGGING DEEPER

- What does Paul mean by specifying that candidates for pastoral ministry must be above reproach (2)?

- Why has Paul's statement about the marital status of pastors 'been the subject of long and anxious debate'? What does he mean?
- And what doesn't he mean?
- What different reasons lie behind the other moral qualities Paul mentions here?
- What does Paul's teaching here imply about the role of deacons?
- What qualifications are emphasized?
- Does verse 11 refer to deacons' wives or deaconesses? What evidence is there either way?
- What three illustrations of the church does Paul set out here? (v 15)
- In verse 16, what are the 6 objective truths about Christ that Paul sets out?