

A Few Good Men

One of the goals of the Karns congregation for the year 2015 is to add additional elder(s) and deacon(s). Borrowing the recruiting slogan from the United States Marine Corps, the Karns congregation needs "a few good men." What qualities should the congregation look for in selecting men to serve as elders and deacons?

Moses also needed a few good men to help him as he led the children from Egypt to the Promise land. Acting upon Jethro's advice, Moses chose men with these qualities (Ex. 18:24).

1. Able men. Men with knowledge and ability (I Tim. 3:5, II Tim. 2:2).
2. Men who fear God. *Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man* (Eccl. 12:13, Matt. 22:37).
3. Men of truth (Jn. 8:32; Prov. 6:17).
4. Men who hate covetousness. Greedy, lustful behavior is condemned throughout the Bible (II Pet. 2:2,3; Rom. 1:29; Eph. 5:3).
5. Men who could delegate authority. This was Moses' problem. He tried to do it all by himself (Ex. 18:16-19).
6. Men who were available to serve. The works of elders and deacons are not just executive positions. They are servants.

Qualifications for elders are also given in I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9. The qualifications for deacons are given in I Timothy 3:8-13. Granted there is some overlap between the qualities Moses looked for in the men he chose and the qualifications for elders and deacons given in the epistles to Timothy and Titus.

The qualities of the men Moses chose and the qualifications given in Timothy and Titus both indicate the high standard God requires of those who serve Him. They also infer the level of commitment of time and energy required to fulfill these jobs. Karns is blessed to have men in the congregation who meet these qualifications. Please pray that a few good men are willing and available to serve in the near future.

For the elders,
Don Denton