

The Ministry of the New Testament Deacon

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Pastor Nick Neves

_____ matters to Jesus, and it should matter to His church.
(see Matthew 11:4-5, James 1:27, 2:15-17, Galatians 2:9-10)

Deacons are to be involved in a _____ ministry of caring for the poor, the needy, and the marginalized in a way that strengthens the church and frees the elders up to faithfully fulfill their own calling.

Philippians 1:1 describes the church using three stations:

1. All the _____ (Christians) in Christ Jesus
2. The _____ (elders/pastors/shepherds)
3. And the _____ (servant leaders)

In verse 3 of Acts 6, we learn how these men are to be selected:

³ Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men...

Why is this important to the process of Deacon selection?

Acts 6:3 narrowed the pool from which the congregation could draw by indicating what kind of men they should be choosing from...

³...men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty.

The men they chose must be **men of good** _____

A deacon must be **full of the** _____

These men were also to be **full of** _____

While the congregation of the church presented seven men to fulfill these roles, in the end it was the _____ who *appointed* the men to the duty.

³ Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty.

Why is it ultimately the elder's responsibility to appoint the deacons?

By instituting the office of deacon, the Lord broke down New Testament leadership into two sections: _____ and _____.

- Elders were to be responsible for _____

- Deacons were to be responsible for _____

***Side note:** The focus of Deacons should be first on ministering to the needs of their Christian brothers and sisters, then expand out into community.

Galtians 6:10 – So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and _____ to those who are of the household of faith. (see also 1 Thessalonians 3:12)

What are some modern misconceptions about the role and responsibility of New Testament Deacons?

Why would someone consider serving as a deacon?

1 Timothy 3:13 – 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.