

The Ministry of the New Testament Deacon

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_____ 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.*