

Roles in the Church

LESSON 6: DEACONS

Review

In one word, describe the work of elders

- **Shepherd**

What are they stewards of?

- **God's church/flock**

In one word, describe their leadership style? (Acts 20:35)

- **Givers**

Work & Qualifications

OF DEACONS

What is a deacon?

Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words

1 Strong's Number: G1249

Greek: *diakonos*

Deacon:

whence Eng. "deacon", primarily denotes a "servant," whether as doing servile work, or as an attendant rendering free service, without particular reference to its character. The word

Deacons are servants with a given task(s)

Diakonos is, generally speaking, to be distinguished from *doulos*, "a bondservant, slave;" *diakonos* views a servant in relationship to his work; *doulos* views him in relationship to his master. See, e.g., [Mat 22:2-14](#); those who bring in the guests (vv. 3, 4, 6, 8, 10) are *douloi*; those who carry out the king's sentence (v. 13) are *diakonoi*.

What does a deacon do?

ACTS 6:1-7

What was the problem?

What was the solution?

¹ Now in those days, when *[the number of]* the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. ² Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. ³ "Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of *[good]* reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; ⁴ "but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word." [Act 6:1-4 NKJV]

Who chose the men?

Who were they serving?

What was the result?

5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, 6 whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them. 7 Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith. [Act 6:5-7 NKJV]

What does he do?

**SERVES THE CHURCH BY DOING TASKS
GIVEN TO HIM**

The Qualifications

1 TIMOTHY 3:8-13

Desire
Blameless
Husband...
Temperate
Sober-minded
Good behavior
Hospitable
Able to teach

Not given to wine
Not violent
Not greedy for money
Gentle

Not quarrelsome
Not covetous
Rules house well
Not novice

Good testimony to outsiders

TRUST:

What they say

What they do

Why they do it

Are they
Junior Elders?

1. Reverent
2. Not double-tongued
3. Not given to wine
4. Not greedy for money
5. Holding mystery of the faith w/
pure conscience
6. Tested & proven blameless
7. Wives are reverent
8. Not slanderers
9. Temperate
10. Faithful in all things
11. Husband...
12. Ruling children & house well

Review

What is a deacon?

Who does he serve?

What are 2 qualifications unique to him?

Next Week: Preachers

1 & 2 TIMOTHY; TITUS